

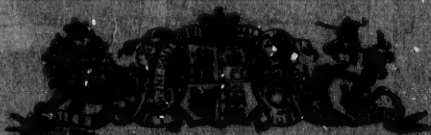
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Northern Districts of Ontario, Canada

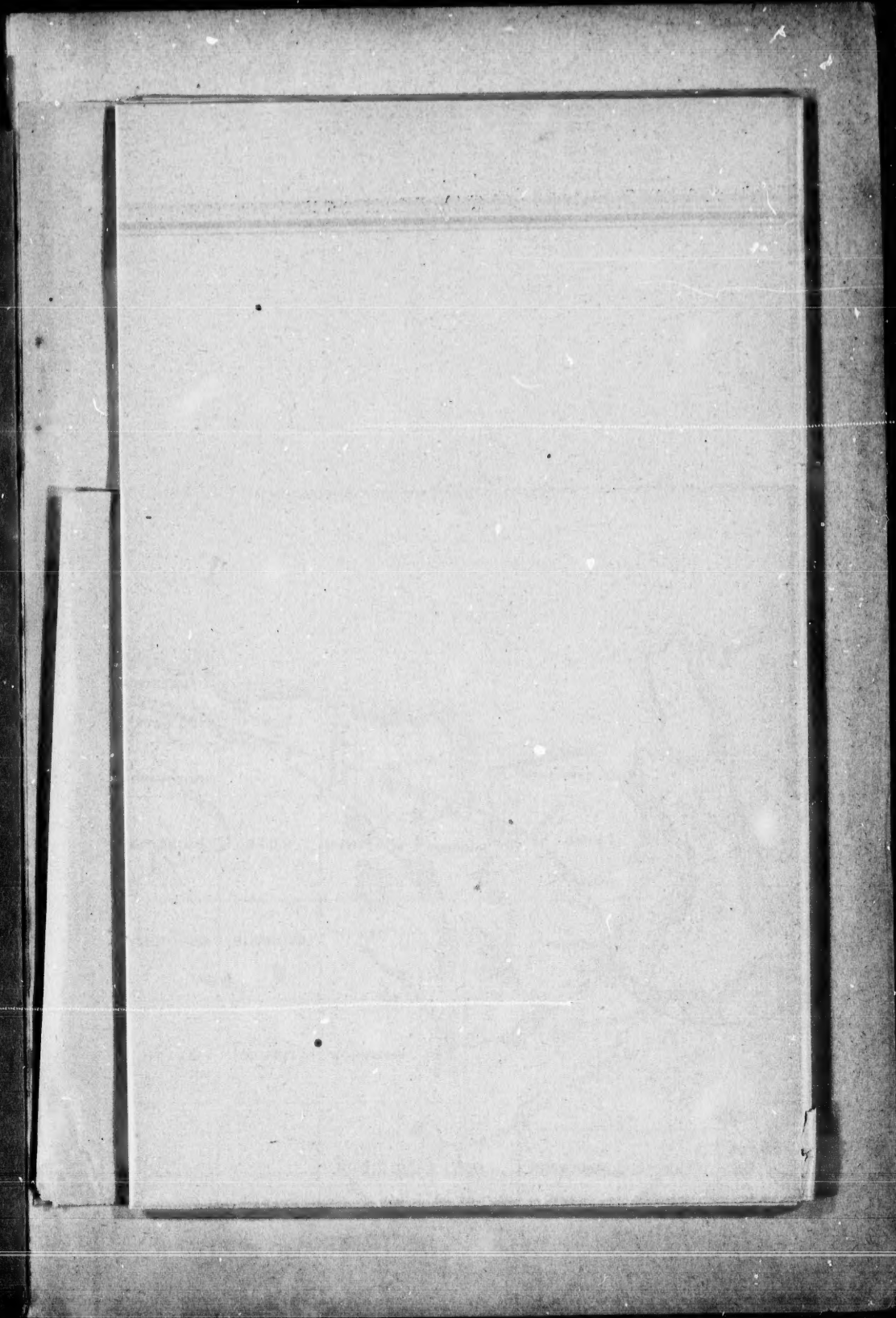
NISSING,
ALGOMA,
TEMISCAMING,
WABIGOON,
RAINY RIVER.



2
Fourth Edition.
1897.



Prepared under instructions from
HON. J. J. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS FOR ONTARIO.



Easter

TO

Under Free Grants

PLUMMER.....
ST. JOSEPH IS.
KORAH
PARKE.....
PRINCE.....

For Sale at 20 cts.

COFFIN.....
GALBRAITH..
HAUGHTON..
JOHNSON....
LEFROY.....
ROSE.....
TARBUTT....
BRIGHT.....
DAY.....
GLADSTONE..
KIRKWOOD..
PARKINSON..
PATTON.....
THOMPSON..
WELLS.....
VICTORIA..
HALLAM.....
SALTER.....
MAY.....
SHEDDEN....

For Sale at 50 cts.

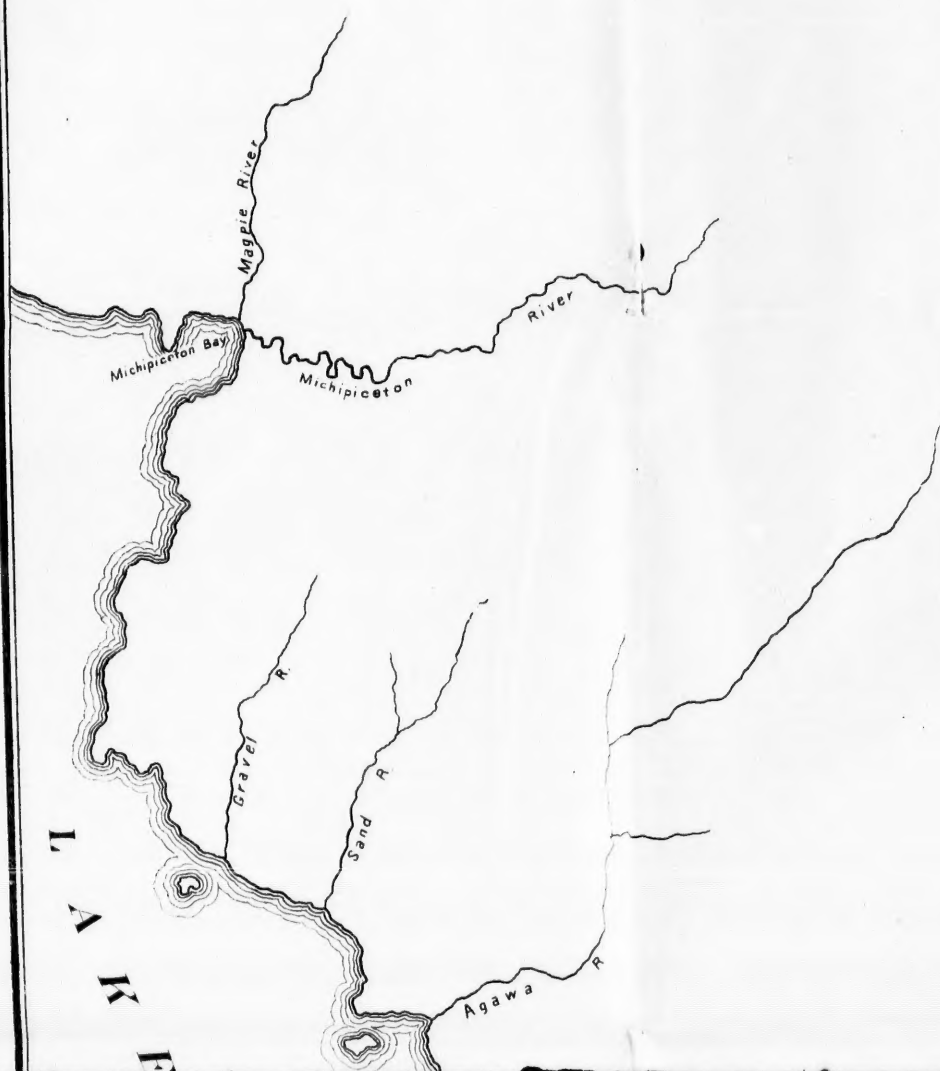
BALFOUR.....
DOWLING.....
RAYSIDE.....

For Sale at \$2.00

BALDWIN...
SOUTH HALF
FOSTER.....
SOUTH HALF
MERRITT....

Under Free Grants

ATWOOD.....
BLUE.....
CURRAN.....
DILKE.....
MORLEY.....
NELLES.....
PATULLO....
ROSEBERRY..
SHENSTON..
TAIT.....
WORTHINGTH
AYLSWORTH..
BARWICK...
CARPENTER..
CROZIER....
DEVLIN.....
DOBIE.....
LASH.....
RODDICK...
WOODYATT..



MAP OF Eastern Algoma and Northern Nipissing

TOWNSHIPS OPEN FOR SETTLEMENT IN NORTHERN DISTRICTS OF ONTARIO

EASTERN ALGOMA.

Under Free Grants Act.

PLUMMER.....	W. L. NICHOLS, Crown Land Agent, Thessalon.
ST. JOSEPH ISLAND.....	GEO. HAMILTON, " " Richard's Landing.
KORAH.....	W. TURNER, " " Sault Ste. Marie.
PARKE.....	" " " "
PRINCE.....	" " " "

For Sale at 20 cts. an Acre.

COFFIN.....	W. L. NICHOLS, Crown Land Agent, Thessalon.
GALBRAITH.....	" " " "
HAUGHTON.....	" " " "
JOHNSON.....	" " " "
LEFROY.....	" " " "
ROSE.....	" " " "
TARBUTT.....	" " " "
BRIGHT.....	" " " "
DAY.....	" " " "
GLADSTONE.....	" " " "
KIRKWOOD.....	" " " "
PARKINSON.....	" " " "
PATTON.....	" " " "
THOMPSON.....	" " " "
WELLS.....	" " " "
VICTORIA.....	D. G. McDONALD, Crown Land Agent, Massey Station.
HALLAM.....	" " " "
SALTER.....	" " " "
MAY.....	" " " "
SHEDDEN.....	" " " "

For Sale at 50 cts. an Acre.

BALFOUR.....	J. D. COCKBURN, Crown Land Agent, Sturgeon Falls.
DOWLING.....	" " " "
RAYSIDE.....	T. J. RYAN, " " Sudbury.

For Sale at \$2.00 an Acre, under Railways Aid Act.

BALDWIN.....	D. G. McDONALD, Crown Land Agent, Massey Station.
SOUTH HALF OF NAIRN.....	" " " "
FOSTER.....	" " " "
SOUTH HALF OF LORNE.....	" " " "
MERRITT.....	" " " "

RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

Under Free Grants Act.

ATWOOD.....	R. J. F. MARSH, Crown Land Agent, Rainy River P.O.
BLUE.....	" " " "
CURRAN.....	" " " "
DILKE.....	" " " "
MORLEY.....	" " " "
NELLES.....	" " " "
PATULLO.....	" " " "
ROSEBERRY.....	" " " "
SHENSTON.....	" " " "
TAIT.....	" " " "
WORTHINGTON.....	" " " "
AYLSWORTH.....	WM. STEPHENSON, Crown Land Agent, Big Forks.
BARWICK.....	" " " "
CARPENTER.....	" " " "
CROZIER.....	" " " "
DEVLIN.....	" " " "
DOBIE.....	" " " "
LASH.....	" " " "
RODDICK.....	" " " "
WOODYATT.....	" " " "

WABIGOON, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

For Sale at 50 cts. an Acre.

VAN HORNE.....	A. E. ANNIS, Crown Land Agent, Dryden.
WAINWRIGHT.....	" " " "
ETON.....	" " " "
RUGBY.....	" " " "

NORTHERN NIPISSING.

Under Free Grants Act.

CHISHOLM.....	J. S. SCARLETT, Crown Land Agent, Powassan.
BONFIELD.....	B. J. GILLIGAN, " " Mattawa.
CALVIN.....	" " " "
FERRIS.....	" " " "
MATTAWAN.....	" " " "
PAPINEAU.....	" " " "

For Sale at 50 cts. an Acre.

CALDWELL.....	J. D. COCKBURN, Crown Land Agent, Sturgeon Falls.
SPRINGER.....	" " " "
McKIM.....	" " " "

For Sale at \$2.00 an Acre, under Railways Aid Act.

WIDDIFIELD.....	J. D. COCKBURN, Crown Land Agent, Sturgeon Falls.
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TEMISCAMING.

For Sale at 50 cts. an Acre.

BUCKE.....	JOHN ARMSTRONG, Crown Land Agent, Liskeard.
CASEY.....	" " " "
DYMOND.....	" " " "
HARRIS.....	" " " "
HUDSON.....	" " " "

PARRY SOUND DISTRICT.

Under Free Grants Act.

HARDY.....	J. S. SCARLETT, Crown Land Agent, Powassan.
HIMSWORTH.....	" " " "
NIPISSING.....	" " " "
LAURIER.....	" " " "
PATTERSON.....	" " " "

Department of Crown Lands,

Toronto, May, 1897.



Northern Nipissing

DISTRICTS OF ONTARIO

ROON, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

an Acre.

..... A. E. ANNIS, Crown Land Agent, Dryden.
 " " " "
 " " " "
 " " " "

NORTHERN NIPISSING.

Act.

..... J. S. SCARLETT, Crown Land Agent, Powassan.
 B. J. GILLIGAN, " " Mattawa.
 " " " "
 " " " "
 " " " "

an Acre.

..... J. D. COCKBURN, Crown Land Agent, Sturgeon Falls.
 " " " "
 " " " "

an Acre, under Railways Aid Act.

..... J. D. COCKBURN, Crown Land Agent, Sturgeon Falls.

TEMISCAMING.

an Acre.

..... JOHN ARMSTRONG, Crown Land Agent, Liskeard.
 " " " "
 " " " "
 " " " "

PARRY SOUND DISTRICT.

Act.

..... J. S. SCARLETT, Crown Land Agent, Powassan.
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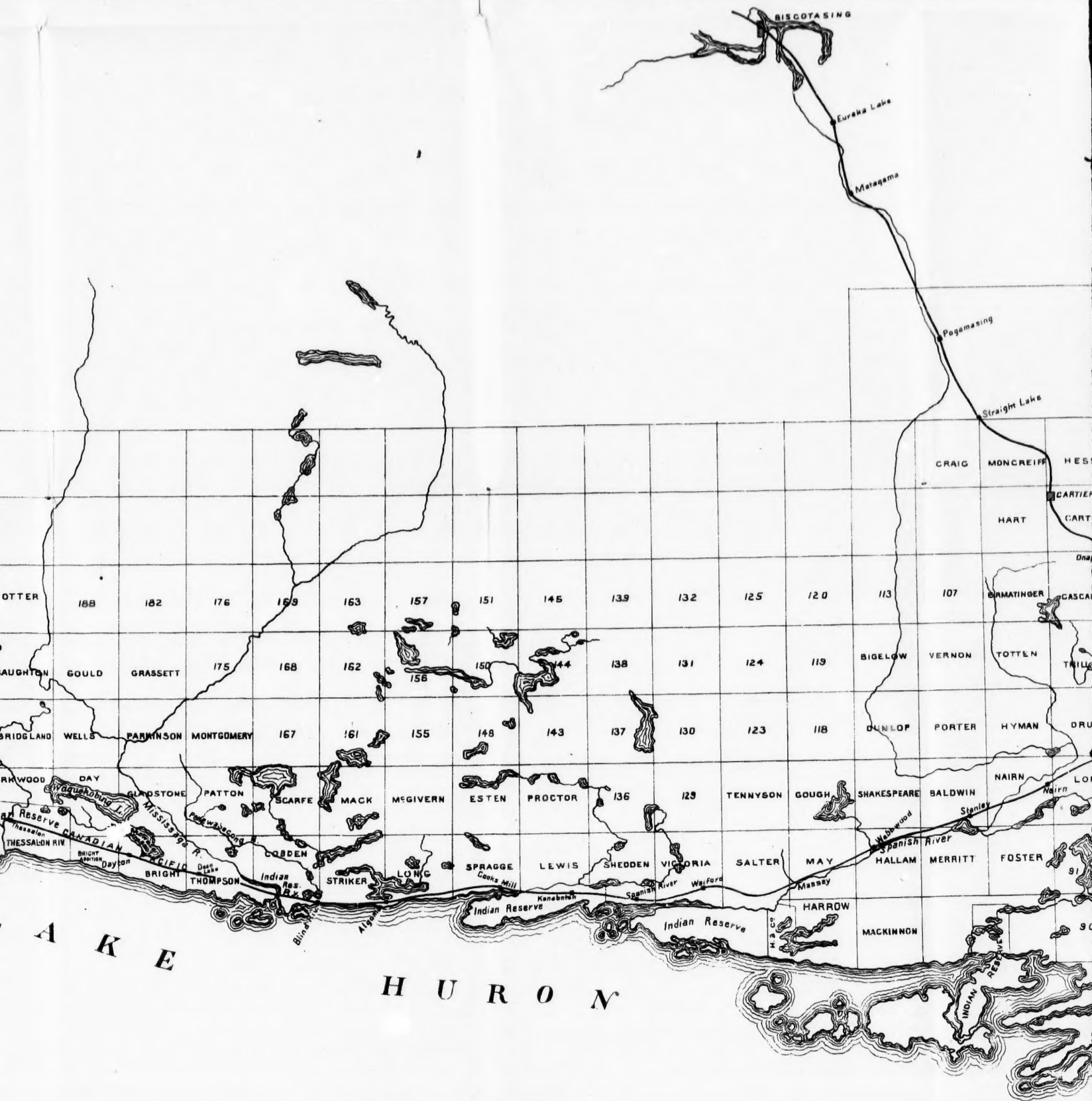
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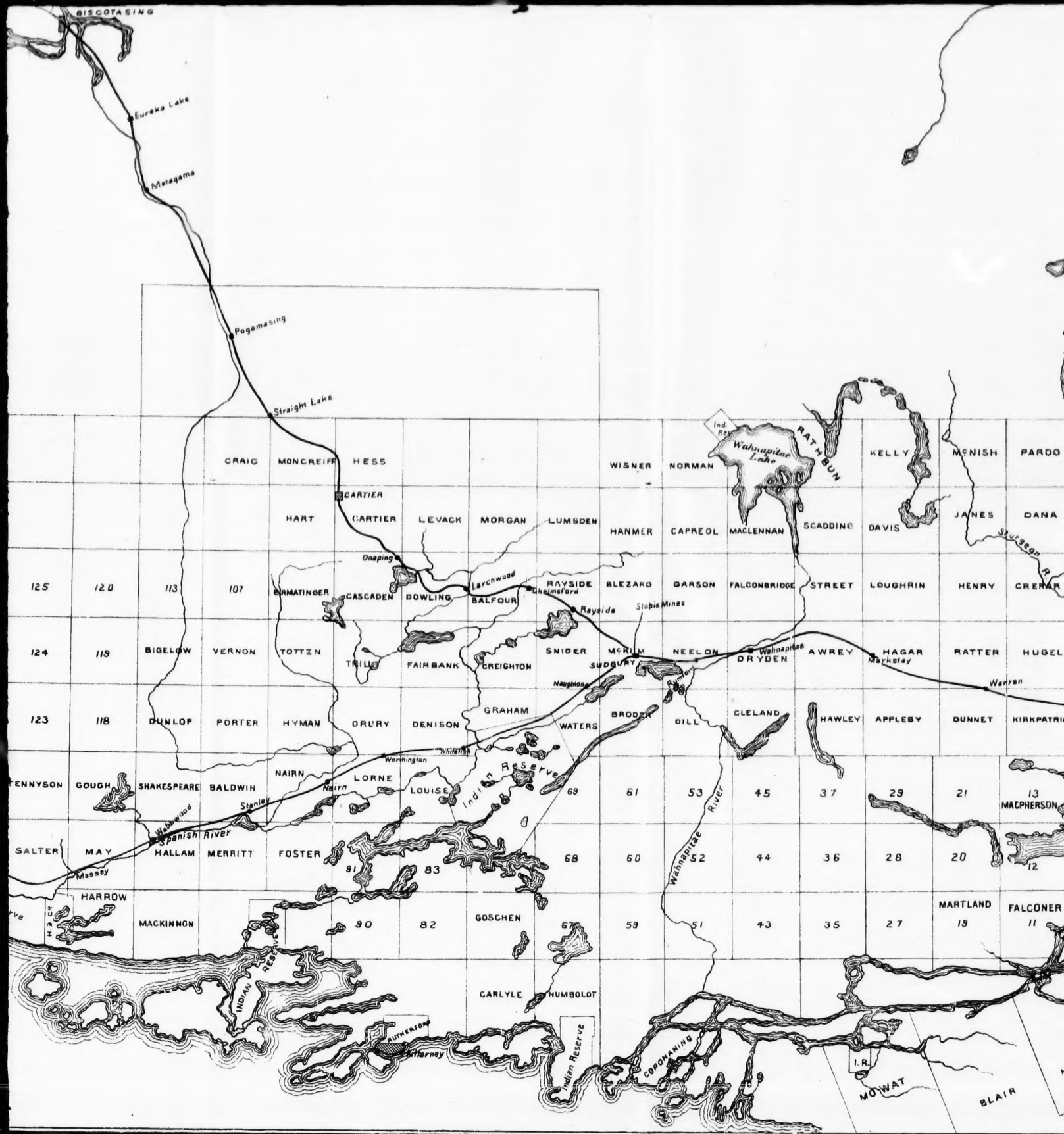
Toronto, May, 1897.

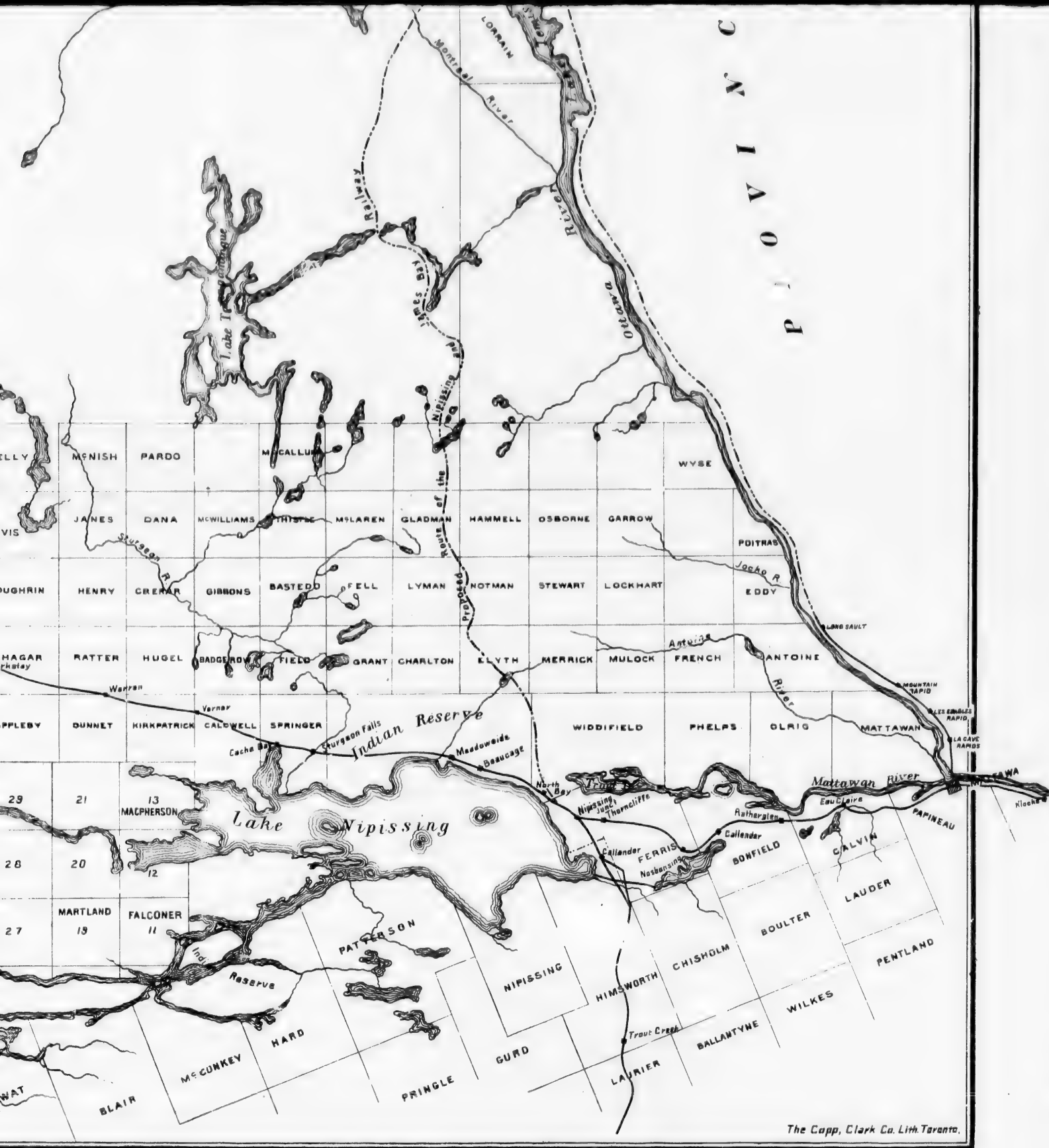
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NORTHERN DISTRICTS OF ONTARIO

CANADA.



NIISSING
ALGOMA
TEMISCAMING
WABIGOON and
RAINY RIVER

THEIR

Climate, Soil, Products; Agricultural, Timber and Mineral Resources
and Capabilities,

WITH INFORMATION AS TO HOW TO ACQUIRE LANDS.

Prepared under Instructions from

HON. J. M. GIBSON, COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS FOR ONTARIO

FOURTH EDITION (WITH MAPS).



TORONTO, CANADA:

WARWICK BRO'S & RUTTER, PRINTERS, &C., &C., 68 AND 70 FRONT ST. WEST.

1897.

These pages, while applicable in great measure to the whole of the Free Grant Territory, are intended to have special reference to that part of the Algoma District between Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, to the part of Nipissing District bordering on the Canadian Pacific Railway, to the Temiscaming Settlement, and to the Rainy River District, including the Wabigoon Settlement on the C. P. R. in connection with the Government Pioneer Farm; all of which Districts are now easily accessible by railway or steamboat.

PART I.

Eastern Algoma and North Nipissing.

INTRODUCTION.

It is the object of this pamphlet to render better known the capabilities of those parts of our undeveloped lands which for brevity's sake we are accustomed to call our Northern Districts,—namely, Eastern Algoma, North Nipissing, Temiscaming and the Rainy River country. The statements hereafter made are drawn principally from official sources, or other accurate information, and in most cases the authority is cited. Great pains have been taken in order that an entirely trustworthy account of the country may be given. And from the testimony adduced and the arguments legitimately based thereon, the reader can scarcely avoid arriving at the following conclusions :

1. That Northern Ontario is the best field now open for settlement by persons of small capital willing and able to work for themselves.

2. That the abundance of well paid employment outside of agriculture renders it easy for a settler to establish himself by his own labor on his own land. Not only are there good wages to be earned in the winter in the lumber and mining camps and elsewhere, but the settler has abundant opportunity to realize ready money all the year round by working on his own account at such industries as

Cutting and hauling pulpwood and cordwood.

Railway ties, posts and telegraph poles.

Tanbark.

Getting out pine logs under contract for lumbermen.

Working on Government roads, bridges, etc.

3. That independence can be achieved there by a poor man sooner than the same position can be attained elsewhere.

4. That whether for dairying, stockraising or general agriculture the country presents a combination of advantages that are presented in few localities.

5. That there is as great a range and variety of products there as anywhere.

6. That in yield per acre of the principal crops the Northern Ontario lands actually excel the most fertile states of the American Union.

7. That the advantages of having cheap fuel and building material more than counterbalance the disadvantage of having to clear the land.

8. That the country is near to the great markets of the world and has water communications unrivalled, and railway advantages such as no other country ever possessed in its early days.

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9. That the climate is temperate when compared with that of many thickly inhabited and prosperous parts of the new and old world.

10. That there is an entire absence of fever and ague, there is no malarial disease whatever, and in fact there is no healthier country under the sun.

11. That our Northern Districts are capable of maintaining hundreds of thousands of people in agriculture, mining, manufacturing and general industries.

12. That already a surprising development has taken place.

13. And that our Northern Districts possess all the advantages and qualities necessary to render them attractive to, and suit them for the home of the most progressive races, namely :

Cheapness of land.

Fertility of soil.

First-class live stock and dairy advantages.

Ability to produce all the crops of the temperate zone.

Incalculable forest wealth.

Variety of industries.

Winter employment.

Good wages for labor.

Immense mineral resources.

Cheap building material.

Fuel for the cutting.

Fruit for the picking.

Fine fisheries.

Game plentiful.

Great range of products.

Water communication.

Good railway accommodation.

Religious and educational advantages.

A healthy country.

Pure and plentiful water.

Regular rainfall.

Temperateness of climate.

Local markets.

Nearness to foreign markets.

Many causes are combining to direct renewed attention to the forest lands of Northern Ontario as a field for settlement. Chief among these causes are the following :

The merits of the lands themselves as proved by the experience of those who have settled upon them.

The almost complete absorption of the homestead lands of the United States. There is now no agricultural land to be had in the United States, except on payment of all it is worth, or more.

There are now no large tracts of fertile land anywhere in that country which have not fallen into the possession of railroads, alien land owners, land companies and syndicates or other corporations who hold it for speculative purposes.

The dealings of purchasers with these companies and corporations have been extremely unsatisfactory to the purchasers.

Many thousands of their purchasers have failed in their attempts to pay off mortgages given as part payment for their farms and have lost all their substance as well as the most valuable part of their lives.

Experience has shown there is a limit to the distance from the seaboard at which exportable crops, or crops whose price is settled in competition with foreign products, can be profitably raised—and this limit has been passed.

A very large proportion of the western plains of the United States, which heretofore have been supposed to possess inexhaustible fertility are found by experience to be so cursed with drouth as to render agriculture a precarious and unattractive calling.

Contemporaneously with the discovery of these facts, there has occurred, from cause or causes which are as yet somewhat obscure, a world-wide fall in the prices of agricultural produce, of itself sufficient seriously to embarrass all producers whose farms lie beyond the limit from which their crops can be cheaply transported to the places of consumption.

And most important of all it is clear that there has set in a reaction from that rush to the cities which has characterized the last fifteen years. It now looks probable that many of the cities on the continent will have difficulty in maintaining their own populations, and will not for some time to come be able to absorb the surplus population produced by the country districts, to say nothing of the foreign immigration.

From the above, among many other causes, it has come to pass that thousands of industrious, persevering and intelligent men have had it borne in upon them that there is no longer any hope in their present situation. Many have arrived at the conclusion that to go upon the land is the only resource that promises them at once safe present employment for their little savings and the prospect of an independent subsistence for the future.

The land being the only visible resource of many thousands of unemployed artisans, struggling traders and starving laborers, and also for the immense yearly output of thrifty farm hands and farmers' sons who cannot possibly find employment in the older settled districts, the question arises, Where is the land to be found? It must be cheap land for such persons as have been mentioned possess little or no capital. It must be near at hand, easily and cheaply accessible, healthy and temperate. It must be a district in which work is to be had and cash earned in order that the settler and his family may be maintained in com-

fort during the first few difficult months while the land is being cleared and brought into bearing. In short, what is wanted is land that can be had for the performance of settlement duties or for little more than that; land on which a man possessing good health, strong arms and a resolute heart can go with only a rudimentary knowledge of agriculture, and from which, as can be seen from examples around him, not only a mere living but a competence can be wrested; land which is not so distant from market that the crops grown on it are valueless to the grower; and in a district possessing all the necessities and comforts of civilization.

Agricultural Capabilities of Algoma and Nipissing Districts.

At our own doors in the districts of Algoma and Nipissing we have a vast tract of land which possesses all the qualities and advantages just described as necessary. Not only do the lands of Algoma and Nipissing comprise millions of acres in extent, but they are easy of access, cheap, and a very large proportion of them are of remarkable fertility. As will be shown hereafter and proved by the official records of actual achievements, the lands in these districts will yield in abundance almost every article of agricultural produce proper to the temperate zone. The crops of cereals and grasses will be proved actually to exceed the yields of the most favored sections of the United States, and even the average of our own fertile Province. The capabilities of the districts for live stock and dairy produce will be shown to be very great.

As to length and severity of the winters it will be proved that Northern Ontario has nothing at all to be afraid of in comparison with other sections supposed to be more favored by nature. The winters in Algoma and Nipissing are infinitely more pleasant and less trying than the winters in the Western States, even so far south as the States of Illinois, Missouri and Kansas; and Algoma and Nipissing are paradise itself compared with the Dakotas and Minnesota. The parts of Algoma and Nipissing of which this is written are in fact further south than a large part of the states last named. Latitude for latitude the Canadian climate is more temperate than the American.

In the excitement that has attended the absorption of the good land of the Western States, the railroad-building and the rush to the cities, this northern land of ours has been somewhat overlooked—but by no means entirely so, for many thousands of industrious settlers have gone in there during the last few years, notwithstanding the apparently greater attractions offered elsewhere. It is now seen and realized that for solid sterling merit the bushlands of Northern and Western Ontario offer inducements which if not as great as those offered by the far-famed western peninsula of our own Province, are actually greater than those offered by any other now unoccupied body of land, when all things are taken into account.

It is the object of this work to show that not only have Algoma and Nipissing all the incidental advantages necessary for the satisfaction of every reasonable want of the settler, but that they furnish actually the best field now open on

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which an industrious man can start with practically nothing, and, securing a comfortable living from the first, can achieve in a few years a position beyond comparison more stable and agreeable than anything which lies in front of the average wage worker.

It is not claimed this desirable position of independence can be attained without continuous hard work, privation and self denial. New settlers everywhere have to suffer hardships and to perform labors which weaklings should not attempt. The settled part of this Province has only been wrested from the forest at the cost of hardships almost inconceivable to us who benefit by the labors of the early pioneers. In these days the labor of chopping out a bush farm, though severe, is child's play as compared with that which the former generation had to undergo. In the old times it was not uncommon for settlers to have to carry in on their backs for several days' journey their furniture, flour and general supplies. In the districts of which these pages treat, a settler would have to try very hard in order to get more than a few miles from a base of supplies and usually the greater part of his transportation can be done by water. The old pioneers had frequently to wait many years before they could establish churches, schools and municipal organizations. Now, so admirably organized are the missions of the various Christian denominations that very few indeed are the settlers who do not have an opportunity of hearing the Word of God every Sabbath. As to education, schools spring up as soon as the children are there, and the excellent municipal laws of this Province provide a form of local self-government cheap, efficient, easily worked and entirely adapted to the needs of a new and struggling community.

The Broken Character of the Land the only serious Drawback.

A disadvantage of Algoma and Nipissing, of which much is made by persons accustomed to level lands, is the broken character of parts of the country through which it is necessary to travel in order to reach the large tracts of really excellent agricultural lands with which the country is dotted over. It is not sought to minimize the seriousness of this drawback. Had it not been for the obtrusiveness of certain rocky ridges and escarpments, our northern townships would doubtless have been settled long ago. The fact that the immediate shores of Lake Huron are rocky has led to the supposition that all behind was barrenness and desolation. But as a matter of fact, some millions of the best acres in Ontario lie a few miles beyond these rocky coast lines. Many very prosperous farmers are living there and thriving settlements are growing up.

Many of the smaller lakes and rivers have rocky and uninviting shores, and in some parts of the country outcrops of granite occur. It is not desired that anyone should settle on these ridges. On the contrary, it is the earnest desire of the Government of Ontario that these rocky lands should be left clothed with forests in their natural condition, for the shelter and protection of the adjacent country and the conservation of our summer rains.

But—and it is easily understood when pointed out—a ridge of rocks is often more conspicuous than formidable. So evident an object fills the eye and limits the horizon. At the same time the space occupied in the country may be quite insignificant in comparison with that occupied by the valleys and unobtrusive plains. Taking out a few parts of the country which are not fitted for settlement,

the remainder may be accurately described as well fitted for agricultural purposes. Many thousands of lots can be found with little or no surface rock upon them—and, a word to the wise, first come first served. Other lots will be found having perhaps more rocks upon the surface; yet they may be very desirable lots. For the truth is that when this great natural drawback of broken lands is looked into, it is seen to have some compensating features. The fact of the many fertile tracts being interspersed with lakes, rivers and forest-crowned ridges of rock is by no means wholly disadvantageous. Many a farmer in Southern Ontario would conceive himself blessed indeed if he had a hundred acres of hill or bush pasture attached to his farm; if he could have his fuel and fencing and building material for the cutting; if, in short, he had to own two hundred acres instead of one hundred, which is practically all the disadvantage entailed by the broken character of the land. The existence of the bush land, the lakes and the rivers, is in many ways most beneficial to the settler. The bush will furnish him with work that will be increasingly well paid, as the forests further south are depleted; and the lakes and rivers are not only a means of communication, but serve to temper the climate, warding off frost for days and weeks after it has appeared in localities remote from the water. The lakes and rivers also furnish an abundant food supply, which only needs reasonable treatment to be permanent.

Home Markets and Employment Outside Agriculture.

Among other advantages which the pioneer settler of to-day has over those of the last generation is that the market for hardwood is growing very rapidly. The getting out of hardwood is likely to be a regular business, and, conjoined with the pine lumbering, pulp-wood and other industries, is likely to furnish the settler with work for himself and his teams, and a ready market for his products for an indefinite period to come.

Large mills for the manufacture of wood pulp have been established at Sault Ste. Marie, where an immense water power has just been made available by means of a canal, and also at Sturgeon Falls. These will furnish a market for a large quantity of pulp-wood, and having such an immense field to draw from, the industry can hardly fail of success. It will furnish employment directly and indirectly for hundreds of thousands of persons.

The business of getting out railway ties, tan-bark, cedar posts and telegraph poles is one the magnitude of which few outsiders can realize. When it is stated that the Canadian Pacific alone has purchased from settlers and others since 1883-4 the enormous number of 7,867,871 ties, some idea may be formed as to the amount of money that has gone into the bush to pay for labor, etc. Over a million of these ties were bought from settlers, and were therefore free from government dues.

The possibilities in front of the Algoma settler in producing supplies for miners appear to be unlimited. Good authorities say that there is no other part of the world in which rich mineral lands and tracts of rich agricultural land are so mixed up together as they are in Algoma. To set on foot and develop a gigantic mining industry in Algoma, nothing is wanted but a market for the product—which market will some day be opened up either rapidly by the admission of our mineral products to the United States, or more slowly by the expansion of our own industries.

Extent and Characteristics of Algoma and Nipissing Districts.

The name Algoma is commonly applied to all that large territory stretching from a little west of Sudbury to the Lake of the Woods, and from the Great Lakes, including the Manitoulin islands, etc., to the Albany river, one of the principal affluents of Hudson's Bay.

The Nipissing District bounds Algoma on the east, and extends northward to the limits of the Province on Hudson's Bay and the Albany river. It includes the Temiscaming settlement, hereafter described.

Algoma and Nipissing together form a territory of immense size. It is larger than almost any of the United States, larger than the New England States with New York added; larger than any European country except Russia, and larger than a half dozen of the smaller European states put together.

It is a region of considerable diversity of climate, of bountiful summer rains and moderate summer heat. The thousands of lakes are giving up constantly of their moisture to the air. The alternation of temperature over the land and the water cause frequent condensation and precipitation, and thus such a calamity as that summer drouth which in the summer of 1894 reduced the crops of the Western States by many millions of bushels is unknown.

It exhibits an endless variety of hill and dale, rapid and cascade, lake, river and forest. Its lakes and rivers furnish unrivalled waterways. Its numerous wood-crowned rocky ridges furnish shelter for the fertile valleys they enclose, and free pasturage for the cattle that roam therein for nearly seven months of the year. The lower lands are almost always cultivable, and frequently possess a degree of richness that surprises the beholder. The soil is of all varieties; clays of many kinds, clay loam, sandy loam, rich black vegetable mould, and not a little sand that is too light for agricultural purposes, though supporting a heavy timber growth, and presumably adapted excellently for bush pastures subsidiary to other richer land.

No country could be better drained. The irregular surface provides for a rapid flow of the water, which soon finds its way into the rivers and lakes lying on the lower levels. Thus, though the rains are frequent and bountiful, the crops are not subject to be drowned, or the land soured by stagnant water lying in the soil.

General Aspect of the Country.

The country is best described as an undulating plateau or table land elevated some 600 to 1,000 feet above sea level. Ridges of rock, sometimes burned off and bare, but oftener clothed with a vigorous forest growth, traverse it in some sections. Naturally these ridges fill the eye and the beholder is apt at first to underestimate the extent of the good land lying between them. As a matter of fact the proportion of the country which consists of bare or scantily covered rock is much smaller than is generally supposed. Observations made at the river portages are necessarily misleading as these always occur where some ridge of rocks has altered the level of the country.

Generally, on the establishment of a settlement it turns out that the proportion of cultivable land is larger than was at first supposed. The best land will usually be found in the valleys between the ridges. Frequently these valleys are

of large extent curving round the ridges, separating and reuniting, forming good arable tracts of thousands of acres in extent, while the rocky land furnishes bush range for cattle and a base of supplies for building, fencing and fuel purposes. The constant succession of hill and vale and the sparkle of the water illuminating its own setting of many shaded green, viewed under a sky of Italian blue flecked here and there with the most wonderful fleecy clouds and lit up by a sun whose rays fall unimpeded through the singularly clear air, form a vision of entrancing loveliness. It is the world-famed scenery of the Muskoka lakes produced over and over again but ever with new and surprising variation.

Water Everywhere.

No country could be more abundantly blessed than Algoma and Nipissing in this respect. The water of the rivers and lakes is of crystal purity and almost uniformly soft. Frequently it is of a brownish tint, the consequence of its action as an almost perfect solvent, aided perhaps by the presence of a little iron, on the bark and roots of fallen trees. The coloration does not affect the pleasantness of the taste nor the perfection of the water for drinking purposes. Its softness renders it most valuable to all who are affected with rheumatic or kidney troubles. As many of the thousands of summer visitors to Muskoka know, rheumatism commonly disappears within a few days of their coming in, to reappear as soon as they have returned to their hard water at home. And the soft water appears also to have a permanently beneficial effect on many obstinate cases of constipation and diarrhoea.

Almost everywhere are to be found springs apparently icy cold, but which never freeze up, maintaining the same temperature all the year round.

Cheap Fuel and Building Material.

The possession of cheap building material is a boon beyond price to the settler. It more than offsets the cost of clearing the land. Whereas on the prairies the settler must be prepared to pay out in cash several hundred dollars for lumber for house, outbuildings, barn, stable and some fencing, in the forest he can build for himself structures more convenient and efficient and infinitely more comfortable at a cash outlay quite insignificant in comparison. Especially is this the case with relation to buildings for housing live stock. It is not an inaccurate statement that the cost of the buildings necessary to shelter cattle on the western prairies is almost equal to the value of all the cattle they will hold. Again, the woodland settler has an immense advantage in not having to pay out cash for fuel. In the Western States, it is not uncommon for a farmer to have to lay out \$100 or more for his year's fuel. Even in Ontario in the older settled parts, there are many farmers on whom the cash outlay for fuel is one of the most serious demands. But in our newer districts, the farmer who chooses to profit by the experience of the older countries, and to lay out his farm properly, need have no apprehension that fuel will be scarce in his day or that of his children. The ridges and the poor land should never be cleared at all, but maintained as a pasture and fuel reserve, from which only those trees should be removed which have attained their growth and are about to be set aside by nature in the ordinary course.

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As a Dairy Country.

Algoma and Nipissing possess advantages that are absolutely unrivalled as the scene for dairying operations. While, on account of the broken character of the country, the locations for large cheese factories and creameries may be few, yet there are undoubtedly some places where the milk of a sufficient number of cows can be got together to render possible the establishment of enterprises of the largest kind. But particularly where this district will shine will be in those gilt-edged articles of dairy produce which are not necessarily made on a large scale. Given, a country where miasmatic exhalations are unknown; where the water is abundant, pure, free from mineral contamination and of unvarying quality the year round; where the grasses are juicy, sweet and fragrant and the forests full of aromatic leaves and herbs; where the cattle are as a rule exempt from all ailments except those consequent upon accidents occurring in the bush and upon such troubles as may be brought on by careless exposure, or its opposite, too little ventilation; where feeding is necessary not for a longer but for a shorter period than at the front; where ice can be had for hauling and stored in buildings costing practically nothing; where transportation to market is easy and cheap; there is no reason why our northern butter and cheese should not soon establish for themselves a reputation that would enable their makers practically to dictate their own prices.

As a Stock Country.

The prime requisites for profitable stock raising are: Cheap land, good water, cheap transportation, cheap building material, cheap food, a healthy country and a mild climate. Algoma and Nipissing possess all these to a remarkable degree. The land can be had for free grants; also for settlement duties and in some cases for twenty cents an acre and in others 50 cents an acre. The excellence and abundance of the water and the cheapness of building material have been spoken of elsewhere. As to transportation there is no reason why the resident of Algoma and Nipissing should pay appreciably more than is charged to the farmer 200 miles west of Toronto. In fact the probability is that from the frequency of the water routes, the northern farmer will eventually get his stuff to market cheaper than his western competitor will.

Cattle.

The breed of cattle best suited for the settler in his early days is the Devon, which is hardy, light, active, early to mature, furnishes an excellent article of beef, and is tractable and intelligent. The last named qualities are important, inasmuch as the settler being often poor is compelled to rely much on the labor of working oxen, and Devons make the best. Well trained oxen are easily and cheaply bought throughout the district. Not only do many of the settlers make a business of breeding and training them, but there are constantly yokes of oxen for sale by settlers who having become rich enough to purchase horses, have ceased to rely upon the slower and cheaper animals.

In these days, however, horseflesh is phenomenally cheap—cheaper in some places pound for pound than oxen; a condition which is quite unnatural and cannot last. The probability is that oxen will continue to be used in Northern Ontario just as they still are used in New England, and that therefore the Devon will continue to be a most desirable breed. Where dairying is the specialty, the Ayreshires are doubtless more profitable, and in particularly rich spots the

Shorthorns, Herefords and Jerseys can be made to develop their peculiarities to perfection. In fact exhibitors from the free grant countries frequently capture some of the best prizes at the principal exhibitions in the Province.

Sheep.

The supreme excellence of the mutton in the Muskoka and Parry Sound countries and in the Manitoulines and other parts of Algoma is a matter of surprise and satisfaction to the visitor. Travelled Canadians and foreigners say there is nothing to compare with it elsewhere, even the famous Welsh and Cheviot products being held to be distinctly inferior in flavor. An immense business lies ready to the hand of the genius who will organize the production and placing on the markets of the large American and Canadian cities of a regular supply of Northern Ontario mutton and lambs guaranteed to be such and charged for accordingly. The sheep is by nature exactly adapted to Northern Ontario, the larger breeds of Downs succeeding best. They thrive admirably, picking up a living for themselves, and even getting fat on the poorest of land and needing but little care and attention, except during the breeding season. The greatest drawback to this industry is the depredations of the dogs, with which all new settlements are usually overrun. In Algoma and Nipissing this drawback is accentuated by the visits of a lot of hunters who bring in hounds not sufficiently trained to enable them to distinguish between mutton and venison. The dog difficulty, however, is not an insuperable one, and it should not be allowed to stand in the way of a most profitable branch of agriculture.

Hogs.

Within the last few years there has been a great change in the views of the Ontario farmer as to hogs. Whereas a few years ago he was inclined to abandon hog raising to the Western States, and it was a common thing to find Chicago pork all the year round on an Ontario farmer's table, now it is seen that the Western States cannot compete with us in raising small, quick maturing, not overfat animals, to be turned over to the packers at 100 to 120 pounds. Canadian bacon and hams from such animals have already made such a mark on foreign markets that the future of this business is assured. The product of corn-fed animals cannot enter into competition with us, and the market is one that can hardly be glutted. The farmers of Northern Ontario have great advantages in this business. The breeding sows will be easily sheltered and fed, the young pigs will pick up a great part of their own living almost from the start, and in the fall and early winter, after a few weeks of pea and barley feeding, will be brought to the knife in splendid condition for the packer. It is possible that the lumber camps will continue to import the thick, heavy product of the Western States, and that Northern Ontario will never be able to compete with that on even terms. Why attempt to compete with it when a better and higher priced article can be easily produced?

Cereals, Grasses and Vegetables.

No one tract of country will grow every crop valuable to man. Each grass and each grain has its favorite habitat wherein it grows to its greatest perfection. The belt of latitude comprising Algoma and North Nipissing will grow to perfection as great a number of the grasses and grains as can be grown anywhere.

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Timothy and red-top succeed admirably, especially the former. White clover is natural to the soil, coming in of its own accord along the roadside and in the pastures everywhere. Red clover yields prodigious crops. Potatoes in this soil so rich in potash give enormous yields of a quality that cannot be surpassed. Root crops are of such uniform excellence and certainty as put the district's future for stock raising beyond all doubt. Corn yields very profitably as a forage plant and with care and attention can be ripened, but not so cheaply as to compete with land farther south. Wheat of superb quality, both winter and spring, and with a yield equal to any part of the Province can be grown here. The barley almost equals that of the Lake Ontario counties in brightness and often exceeds it in yield. The oats are heavier in the head, cleaner from rust, and brighter in the straw than the oats of the southern counties, and yields of fifty bushels to the acre are not uncommon. Peas flourish exceedingly, the straw being abundant and clean, and the peas bright, large, sound and free from weevil. From thirty to thirty-five bushels to the acre is a frequent crop. Buckwheat succeeds well; so do beans as a garden crop.

Wild Fruit.

Raspberries grow freely around the edges of the clearings, along fences and roads, in any waste places, and after fires. The yield of this fruit is incredibly great. Blueberries and huckleberries of several kinds grow on the rocky shores of the lakes, on the islands, and occasionally in swamps and old beaver meadows. Cranberries are found in the marshes and will always bring a good price. Another species called the high bush cranberry is a very palatable fruit, but does not occur in quantity sufficient to make it commercially valuable. Blackberries and dewberries occur in great quantities. Strawberries are scattered almost everywhere in the open parts. Wild cherries, plums, currants, gooseberries, and in sunny, sheltered spots wild grapes grow luxuriantly. There are many other kinds of edible wild fruit which have no familiar names.

Countries Included in Belt of Latitude, 40 to 55 Degrees.

In the New World, as well as in the Old, the grains and grasses attain their best development between latitudes 40 and 55. These latitudes include:

Old World.

Part of Spain.
France.
Germany.
Switzerland.
Netherlands.
Austria.
Denmark.
Russia.

Great Britain, most of, and the influence of the Gulf Stream so modifies the climate of the northern part of Great Britain and of the Scandinavian countries as to make their productions similar to those of countries further south.

New World.

In the New World, nineteen-twentieths of the lands that can be profitably cultivated between the 40th and 55th parallels of latitude are in Canada. Nearly all of that part of this land which is in the United States is either, as in the west, affected with summer drouths, or, as in the south, has too high a summer temperature to favor the productions of the temperate zone.

Northern Limits of Production of Cereals

Nearly all of the district treated in this pamphlet is situated between the 46th and 47th degrees of north latitude. On another page will be found a table showing that the countries from which have issued nearly all the progressive races in the world are north of latitude 46°. The facts given next below prove that all the principal crops of the temperate zone can be grown successfully some hundreds of miles—even more than a thousand miles north of Algoma, Nipissing and Temiscaming. From Hudson Bay records and the reports of explorers it is proved that many kinds of crops are grown in the far north localities here mentioned:

Localities.	Latitude north.	Agricultural products.
Fort Yukon, Alaska	66.37	Barley, with various cereals, fruit, etc.
New Fort Good Hope, on Mackenzie river	66.16	Turnips, onions, lettuce, potatoes, etc.
Fort Norman, on Mackenzie river.....	64.54	Barley, potatoes, turnips and other vegetables.
Fort Simpson, " "	61.52	Wheat, barley, potatoes, turnips, onions, lettuce. Wheat sometimes succeeds.
Fort Providence, near Great Slave lake..	61.30	Wheat, barley, potatoes, turnips, onions, lettuce. Barley is a sure crop.
Fort Chipewyan, Lake Athabasca	58.42	Wheat 68 to 69 pounds to bushel, won prize at Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition.
Fort Laird, Mackenzie river	59.00	Wheat, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, potatoes, turnips and other vegetables.
Fort Dunvegan, on Peace river.....	56.08	Wheat, barley, peas, corn and potatoes have been raised here for 100 years and have seldom failed.
Edmonton, on the North Saskatchewan.	53.35	Red Fife and Club wheat, besides other grain, and a variety of vegetables, are grown successfully.
Cumberland House; 425 miles northwest from Winnipeg	53.56	Luxuriant crops of wheat, barley and corn, with all sorts of vegetables, are raised here.

The Question of Latitude.

Now, taking 46.30, the latitude of Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, as the average latitude of the district treated of in this pamphlet and taking the geographical degree at 69 statute miles, the stations above mentioned are situated at the following distances further north:

Fort Yukon is.....	1,388	miles further north than Sault Ste. Marie.
New Fort Good Hope..	1,363	" " " "
Fort Norman	1,210	" " " "
Fort Simpson	1,050	" " " "
Fort Providence	1,035	" " " "
Fort Chipewyan	842	" " " "
Fort Laird	862	" " " "
Fort Dunvegan	664	" " " "
Edmonton	488	" " " "
Cumberland House....	512	" " " "

It will give the above figures a great deal more significance when it is pointed out that Sault Ste. Marie is only 193 miles north from the latitude of Toronto.

As far as latitude is concerned, Algoma and Nipissing districts and the Temiscaming settlement are in that belt of the world which has ever been the most famous for the production of grasses, vegetables, fruits, cereals and—men.

It is true that in Western Europe the different crops can be successfully cultivated two or three degrees farther north than they can here. Making all allowances on that score, we have in Algoma and Nipissing an immense tract of land situated as choicely with respect to latitude as any portion of the earth.

Countries and Parts of Countries Lying North of Latitude 46°.

In Canada—The whole of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, Manitoba, Keewatin, part of Algoma and Nipissing, Prince Edward Island, half of Cape Breton Island, three-quarters of New Brunswick and nearly all of Quebec.

In United States—More than half of Minnesota, the whole of North Dakota, three-quarters of Montana and Idaho together, and 99-100ths of Washington Territory.

In Europe—The whole of Great Britain and Ireland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany and Switzerland, more than half of France, four-fifths of Austria-Hungary, a small part of Italy, four-fifths of Moldavia, 99-100ths of Russia.

Forest Productions.

A dense forest growth covers the whole of the land in these districts. The general character of it is—in the low-lying parts, cedar, black and white spruce, tamarac, alder; in the drier parts of the valleys and wherever there is depth enough of soil, a mixed growth of evergreen coniferæ and deciduous trees. Among them are white and red pine, black and white spruce, hemlock, red and white oak, maple of several species, white, yellow and black birch, ash, basswood, elm, beech, poplar, aspen, etc. The ridges are usually crowned with a majestic growth of pines, but where this has been interfered with by fire or other cause, it has been usually succeeded by poplars and white birch.

The cutting and bringing to market of these woods employs armies of men. The work is rough and laborious but well paid. Great activity is now being manifested in the lumbering districts and the prospects for employment never looked brighter than they do now.

Pine and Other Timber on Free Grants.

The pine is not sold to the free grant settler, but the settler has the privilege of cutting pine in the course of clearing, also for building purposes and fencing upon his lot. If he sells any of the pine cut in the course of clearing, he must pay timber dues upon it. On the issue of the patent, the title to the pine remains in the Crown, but the patentee is entitled to receive one-third of the timber dues paid by the licensee on pine cut on the patentee's lot after the 30th of April next following the issue of the patent.

Pine and Other Timber on Lands Sold.

The purchasers of land under the twenty cents an acre and fifty cents an acre regulations take the land subject to any timber license covering the land at the time of sale or granted within three years from the date of such sale. But the purchaser may cut pine for building, fencing and fuel, and may dispose of pine required to be removed in clearing, but on such pine sold he must pay timber dues. The pine trees remaining on the land at the time the patent issues will pass to the patentee.

On the 30th of April next following the sale of any lot, the right of the timber licensee to cut any timber other than pine on the settler's lot ceases.

New Forest Industries.

Within the last few years there has been a great change, immensely advantageous to the settler, in the value of the woods other than pine. For instance, the pulp wood trade is assuming great proportions. For this purpose, spruce and poplar, which may be said to be the prevailing kinds in these districts, and of which the quantity standing is simply unimaginable, have now a ready market, and the settler can find steady work in cutting and hauling these woods to the sides of the railways or the water's edge where a good price is paid for them. It is evident, too, that the manufacture of the wood into pulp will soon become a large industry in Algoma and Nipissing, where the grinding, crushing or other treatment can be accomplished cheaply by water power, and the carriage of the product and the raw material effected by the same means.

Another industry that has expanded rapidly in the last few years is the getting out of hardwood. The use of hardwood for flooring and finishing may be said to be just becoming general. The consumption has increased enormously of late, and as is often the case when production takes place on a large scale, the price to the consumer has gone down considerably, while the price to the first producer has gone up. In the early days of the settlement of this province, hardwood that would now be worth the farms it was on many times over, was burned up to get rid of it, or for the sake of the few miserable cents that could be had for the potash leached from the ashes. Even in the Muskoka country, in which settlement dates back some 25 or 30 years, the hardwood had to be destroyed to get rid of it. Now, the settlers around Lakes Muskoka, Joseph and Rosseau and probably in other parts are getting \$6.50 to \$8 per 1,000 feet for hardwood logs delivered on the shores—a rate which pays them handsomely to work for. The Algoma and Nipissing settler will not have to wait long before all his standing merchantable hardwood is as good to him as so much money in the bank.

The Principal Forest Trees and Their Uses.

The pine is not sold to the settler with the land but is reserved by the Crown and dealt with in another way, of which more elsewhere. The species found are *Pinus Strobus*, white pine; *P. resinosa*, red pine; *P. Banksiana*, Banksian or scrub pine; *P. rigida*, pitch pine.

The black birch grows in these districts to a size which astonishes persons familiar with the tree farther south. Specimens of two or three feet in diameter are common, and occurring as they do in clumps, the cost of handling is reduced to a minimum. At present there is a great demand for this wood as a substitute for cherry, which when cut properly and stained it resembles so closely that only

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an expert can tell them apart. The white birch also grows here to a very large size. This is not the same species as the white birch (*Betula alba*) which grows as a small tree over the Eastern Provinces and New England, but is a large, straight growing tree (*Betula papyracea*) furnishing sheets of bark sometimes large enough in a single sheet to make a good sized canoe.

The white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) is common and grows to a large size. Its wood is soft, light, fine-grained and easily worked. It splits easily to almost any thinness. The Indians use it, split very thin, for lining their bark canoes. It is the most durable of northern woods, standing exposure in the most trying situations. Indoors it is almost imperishable. The consumption is so enormous for fence posts, building posts, sidewalks, railway ties, telegraph poles, paving blocks, small boat building and other purposes that the value of it in the bush is sure to increase rapidly.

The balsam fir or balsam spruce (*Abies balsamea*), grows with a very straight trunk and the outline of a slender cone. It is a very useful tree to the settler, but has no great commercial value. Its resinous juice, hardened by exposure, furnishes the chewing gum affected by schoolgirls, and the Canadian balsam is used medicinally and as an antiseptic application to wounds.

The hemlock (*Abies Canadensis*), is a tree of great and increasing value. Its bark is now being got out in vast quantities for tanning purposes, and is worth about \$3 to \$3.50 per cord according to situation. The wood is of poor quality, but is superior to pine for purposes in which strength is wanted and weight is not an objection. The grain is coarse, crooked and splintered. It makes excellent bridge timber, and its cheapness compared with pine brings it into use for covering of roofs, barns, rough flooring, etc.

Spruce, black and white (*Abies nigra* and *A. alba*) are very abundant, their frequency increasing as we go north. Spruce wood is strong, light and elastic. For masts and spars it has no superior. Within the last few years it has come into use for paper-making. It is probable that the paper on which this is printed is composed entirely of spruce and poplar pulp. The business of getting out logs for pulp has assumed great dimensions.

The poplar is a very common tree in the north and is very valuable for pulp wood. The commonest species are *Populus tremuloides*, aspen common poplar, the thick bark of which is used by fishermen as a substitute for cork for net floats; *P. balsamifera*, balsam poplar, balm of Gilead, rough barked poplar, cotton wood, white wood, and *P. grandidentata*, large toothed poplar.

The tamarac (*Larix Americana*) is the one native coniferous tree which sheds its leaves in the fall. It attains large size in this district, its straight, slender trunk rendering it very useful for many purposes. Its wood is light-colored, strong, durable and close-grained, and has the property of not splitting, so that it is much used for mauls, beetles, etc. It makes good ship-knees, railway ties, and ship timber, while for joists and rafters it is unexcelled.

The beech (*Fagus ferruginea*) is used for tool handles, agricultural implements, planes, mallets, etc. As this tree is becoming scarcer in the south, the factories will have to resort to the abundant supplies in the north for material.

The oak (*Quercus alba* and *rubra*) has many uses, its wood being well suited for implements, carriages, sleighs and cooperage. The white oak, which attains a height of 60 to 80 feet, is the best variety. Its grain is straight, and the wood light-colored, strong, elastic and very durable. The wood of the red oak varies more according to locality, and the tree is more generally diffused.

The maple (*Acer*) gives a wood which is very hard and close-grained and is now much used for flooring and finishing in house work, as it is highly ornamental when polished. It is not durable when exposed to the weather, but for heavy furniture, carriages, railway cars, etc., it is excellent. Peculiar twisted grains are frequently found, called curly and birdseye maple, which make handsome cabinet work, and are worth a good price. The sap of the tree is boiled down into syrup and sugar, and a good price can be obtained in the cities and towns for any that can be warranted genuine.

The elm is one of the handsomest of Canadian trees. Grown in the forest it is one of the tallest with a straight stem and an umbrella top. It prefers low, humid soil. Its wood is tough, resists the wedge, is not so strong as oak and less elastic than ash. It has many uses and is especially valuable for piling or wharf-building. The white or swamp elm (*Ulmus Americana*) goes very far north. It reaches a height of seventy or eighty feet and a diameter of six to eight feet. The slippery or red elm (*U. fulva*) is a smaller tree found along streams. Its wood is hard, reddish and very tough. The inner bark is mucilaginous and is much used in household medicine as an alterative and for the making of poultices. Rock elm (*U. racemosa*) is a large tree. Its wood has fine grain and is heavy and susceptible of good polish. It is largely used in making wagons, wheels, agricultural implements and heavy furniture.

Basswood (*Tilia Americana*) is now being taken out in considerable quantities. The wood is light, tough and durable, soft and easily worked. It possesses the property of not warping. It is used for piano sounding boards, refrigerators, carriage panels and chair seats; by carvers, turners, woodenware makers, and for any purpose where lightness is wanted.

The white ash (*Fraxinus Americana*) is another of the northern trees that yields valuable timber. The wood is light, tough, elastic, very strong and easily separable into thin layers. It is used largely in basket making, cabinet work, farm implements, heavy oars, barrel staves and hoops.

All of the above trees possess considerable commercial value at any place not too remote from market. Having in view the rise that is taking place in their value and the increasing scarcity nearer the manufacturing centres, it will be folly for the Canadian to burn up any more straight logs for the sake of getting rid of them.

Preservation of Forests from Fire.

The Provincial Legislature has taken steps to prevent for the future the waste of our forest resources by fire. No one must set fire in the woods between 1st April and 1st November except for the purpose of clearing land, cooking, obtaining warmth or some industrial purpose. Everyone setting a fire between those days for the purpose of clearing land is to take every reasonable care that the fire shall not extend into the bush. Everyone setting a fire for any other purpose is to select a place in the neighborhood in which there is the smallest quantity of vegetable matter, or of resinous trees; to clear the place of all loose vegetable matter for a radius of ten feet from the fire; and to exercise due care to prevent a fire from spreading. Any person who drops any lighted match, or burning tobacco ashes, or discharges any firearm, must extinguish the fire caused by these substances before he leaves the spot. All locomotive engines must be equipped with spark arresters. Any infringement of the above provisions subjects the offender to a penalty of \$50 and costs or three months' imprisonment. The Crown Land agents, forest agents, free grant agents and bush-rangers are to prosecute in every case of infringement of the Act that comes to their knowledge.

County councils may pass by-laws that whenever the woods are on fire in any township, the fire-guardians, fence-viewers, overseers of highways or path-masters appointed by the township councils may call out as many of the persons liable to perform statute labor as are necessary to assist in quelling the fire. Every day's work done in attempting to quell fire shall count as one day of next season's road work. Where there are no county councils, the township council may pass the necessary by-law. Where persons not liable to statute labor are called out, the council may direct that they shall be paid out of the municipal funds. Any person liable to perform statute labor who is called out to quell a fire and does not obey is liable to a fine of twenty dollars and costs, or to imprisonment for twenty-one days.

Geology and Mineralogy.

A very large part of the Algoma and Nipissing Districts is of the ancient formation known by the name of Upper and Lower Laurentian. Dr. Robert Bell, of the Geological Survey of Canada, describes the Lower Laurentian rocks as consisting almost entirely of primitive or fundamental gneiss, which is supposed by many geologists to have been originally of an igneous nature, but to have undergone alteration which has produced its more or less foliated character. The Upper Laurentian appears to consist, to some extent at least, of sedimentary strata that have been changed by pressure and heat and probably electricity acting slowly or through a very long time, and causing them to become to a greater or less degree crystalline in structure. The Lower Laurentian rocks consist of gray and red gneiss of many shades of color, usually much distorted. These rocks are almost destitute of valuable minerals. The Upper Laurentian comprises a greater variety of rocks and minerals. It possesses more regularity in its strata and includes great banded masses of crystalline limestones, vitreous quartzites, mica and hornblende schists massive pyroxene, and both massive and foliated labradorite rocks. Considerable areas of granite and syenite occur in the formation. Upwards of sixty different minerals have been found in the Upper Laurentian, among them graphite, apatite, mica, serpentine and limestone marbles, limestones, felspar, porphyry and other ornamental stone, pyrites, sulphates of barium and strontium, asbestos, crysolite, building stones, and iron and other ores. The Lower Laurentian gneisses are the oldest rocks known. Their thickness, says Dr. Bell, must be enormous, and there is no means of making even a guess at it. The thickness of the Upper Laurentian rocks is roughly estimated in the Ottawa Valley at from 50,000 to 100,000 feet, or nearly twenty miles.

A little west of Lake Nipissing the Huronian, a more recent formation, comes in and continues for about a hundred miles west. The dividing line between the two formations runs northeastward from the head of Shibaonaning or Killarney bay. Northeastwardly the Huronian formation widens out till it reaches Lake Temiscaming and it occupies the whole country thence westward to the head waters of the Montreal river. Northeastward it proceeds for an unknown distance into the Province of Quebec.

This is the largest known of the Huronian areas; but the same formation is found in the more northerly and northwesterly portions of the Province, frequently in extensive areas, and wherever it occurs is deserving of the careful attention of the mining prospector, for its rocks comprise the principal mineral wealth of Canada. The whole of the Huronian rocks are more or less, but not

uniformly, metalliferous. Some deposits of copper, silver, gold and nickel of immense value have been found and are now being worked. From discoveries which have been made at various points it appears probable that a belt of nickeliforous copper pyrites extends from the shore of Lake Huron northeastward through the Sudbury district and onward for several hundred miles. The Sudbury mines now form one of the two great sources of the world's nickel supply, the other being the island of New Caledonia. This region will no doubt long continue to be one of the greatest copper and nickel producing countries in the world. Copper is found in considerable quantities along the Sault line of the Canadian Pacific, around Sudbury, in the townships of Drury, Denison, Graham, Waters, Snider, McKim and Blezard, on the west side of Wahnapiatae lake, near the north end of Lady Evelyn lake, at Point Mamainse and Michipicoten island in lake Superior, on Montreal river, on Blanche river, near Abbitibbe lake, and as far as the north end of Lake Mistassini in Quebec.

Rich finds of gold have been made in this district, in Denison—the Vermilion mine—in adjacent townships southwest of Sudbury, also on the south and east shores of Lake Wahnapiatae, in the townships of Rathbun, Scadding, Kelly and Davis.

Silver-bearing galena has been found at Garden river, at the Sudbury mines also in the township of Creighton and at Lady Evelyn lake which lies between the Montreal river and Temagami lake.

Iron, magnetic and hematite, occurs in very large quantities in many places in the townships adjacent to Bruce mines, on the Mattawin and Atik-okar rivers, on Gun-flint lake and the lower reaches of the Seine river are large deposits of iron, mostly of good quality and capable of furnishing sufficient ore to supply the wants of the Province for centuries to come.

Zinc, antimony, arsenic, tellurium, platinum, tin, molybdenum, bismuth and cobalt have also been found.

Of non-metallic minerals, in which the Huronian formation is rich, the following occur in this district: fine granites for buildings, monuments and ornamental purposes, sandstones, quartzites, flagstones, roofing slates, serpentine and dolomitic marbles, jasper, mica, asbestos, graphite, actinolite, barytes, etc.

The exploration for minerals is as yet in its infancy. Vast tracts of the country have only been seen from the canoe routes or the surveyors' lines. What has been discovered is sufficient to give the brightest hope that this district will become one of the greatest mineral producers in the world.

The land north of Lake Temiscaming is geologically of the same character as southern Ontario, the rock being of the Niagara limestone formation with sandy beds and coarse or boulder conglomerates at its base. Lithographic stone is found near the head of the lake; several islands adjacent consist of stratified limestone, and flagstones of extraordinary size and quality are obtainable on the east side of the lake about seven miles above the Galere. Roofing slates are found about five miles up the Montreal river. The limestone formation extends from the islands just mentioned to a great distance northward. It is overlaid by rich, level, alluvial land. An area of many thousands of acres, the equal of any in the province as respects fertility, is there to be found.

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Elevation of the Lakes and Country.

Lake Ontario	235 ft. above the sea.
Lake Huron	578 " "
Lake Superior	586 " "
Lake Temiscaming	612 " "
Ottawa river at junction of the Mattawa	519 " "
Upper Trout lake, source of the Mattawa river	690 " "
Height of land between Lake Nipissing and Ottawa ..	714 ft. 5 in. above the sea.
Lake Abbitippe	857 ft. above the sea.

Elevation of Points along the Northern and Pacific Junction Railways and Northward.

The following figures are taken from actual levels made by Mr. J. C. Bailey, Chief Engineer of the Northern and Pacific Junction Railway and the Toronto and James Bay Railway :

	<i>Miles from Gravenhurst.</i>	<i>Feet above Lake Ontario.</i>
Platform of station at Gravenhurst .....	....	572.0
Lake Muskoka .....	....	500.4
Caswell's lake	29	758.0
Vernon river at Huntsville	35	692.0
Opposite village of Cyprus	45	839.0
At village of Emsdale	51	798.0
Magnetawan river near Burk's falls	54	724.0
Doe lake at Village of Katrine	55	723.0
Berridale village	64	894.0
Stony lake, off Sundridge	71	841.0
South River station	77	902.0
Marsh lake	79½	947.0
Highest point on the line is at	80	952.5
Beaver Creek	88	782.0
Powassan village	95½	611.5
Wistawahsing river	104½	483.5
Callendar station, on track	107	426.5
Lake Nipissing, opposite this station, level of water ..	107	398.5
Crossing of C. P. Ry. at La Vase	111	434.5
At North Bay station ground of C. P. Ry. the elevation above Lake Ontario is		420.0
Marten lake 38½ miles from North Bay		694.0
Temagami lake, 68½ miles from North Bay		721.7

The River Systems of Algoma and Nipissing.

At a distance of about, on the average, 150 miles north of Lakes Huron and Nipissing occurs the "divide" or watershed which separates the streams that flow northward into Hudson's bay from those which run southward into the great lakes or into the Ottawa river, thence into the St. Lawrence.

Of the rivers flowing north, the Albany, Jig-a-wa, Moose, Missanibi, Abbitibbe, etc., and of the country through which they run, it is not the intention now to speak. Suffice it to say that very little is known of the country except in the immediate neighborhood of the rivers and lakes.

Of the rivers flowing south the principal one is the Ottawa, a magnificent stream, the boundary (south of the head of Lake Temiscaming) between Ontario and Quebec. Formerly Lake Temiscaming was considered the source of the Ottawa, but better explorations show that the lake receives several large streams, to one of which coming from the northeast under the various names of River des Quinze, Lac des Quinze, Lac Expans, etc., the source of the Ottawa must be ascribed. Lake Temiscaming receives, on the Ontario side, the Blanche river, the Montreal river, each draining a considerable area, also Wahbe's creek, Metabetchouan, Opinicon and smaller creeks. Streams without number and thus far without name.

The large Lake Temagami, said to contain 1,300 islands and to be with its picturesque scenery and its deep clear crystal waters a very elysium for sportsmen, discharges both ways, into the Ottawa and into Lake Huron.

The Mattawa river drains the district between Lake Nipissing and the Ottawa into which river it flows at Mattawa village, traversing or draining the townships of Mattawa, Papineau, Calvin, Orlig, Phelps, Bonfield, Ferris, and Widdifield.

Lake Nipissing, a fine body of water of about forty miles long by eighteen wide, receives the drainage of a large area which is poured into it from the north by the Sturgeon river, Veuve, Duchesnay, La Vase, etc., and on the south by the South river. The outlet of this lake is by a perfect maze of channels known as the French river.

Next west of Lake Nipissing comes the Wahnapiatae river flowing out of Wahnapiatae lake and passing through the townships of Dryden and Dill among others, crossing the C. P. R. at Wahnapiatae station and falling into the French river a short distance from its mouth in Lake Huron.

Then comes the Whitefish river which discharges into Lake Huron back of Cloche island and within a few miles of Little Current, the most northerly point of the Grand Manitoulin. The Whitefish river consists of a series of long lakes connected by short and frequently rapid streams.

The next considerable stream is the Spanish river. This is navigable to five-foot craft for thirty miles from its mouth. It traverses the townships of Albert, Victoria, Salter, May, Hallam, Merritt, Foster, Nairn, Lorne, Drury, Hyman, Baldwin, Shakespeare, etc. In the township of Foster there unites with it the Vermilion river, a fine broad deep stream rising in the height of land and flowing through Vermilion lake, a long narrow sheet of water which takes its name from the beautiful autumnal coloring put on by the maple, oak, birch, poplar, etc. which line it throughout its course to the water's edge.

The Serpent river, the mouth of which is in the township of Lewis, flows into a deep landlocked inlet of Lake Huron, about ten miles west of the Spanish river.

About twenty miles further west is the Blind river forming the boundary of an Indian reserve and draining the townships of Cobden, Scarfe, Patton, etc.

The Mississauga river is a very important stream entering Lake Huron in an excellent harbor formed by outlying islands. The river is at present, however, navigable for only four miles from its mouth.

The next large river is the Thessalon, draining a chain of lakes and entering Lake Huron at Thessalon Point.

Garden river empties into the St. Mary's river a few miles east of Sault Ste. Marie. It is a fine stream of some three chains in width.

Character of the People—Educational Facilities

In common with all the newly-settled parts of Canada, Algoma and Nipissing are being settled up with a quiet, orderly and distinctly religious population. Whereas on the other side of the line rowdies seem to gravitate naturally to the frontier settlements, with us there always has been in our remotest backwoods a God-fearing and law-abiding sentiment that has made life and property as safe as anywhere in the world, civilized or uncivilized. In Canada the border-ruffian is unknown. The older parts of the free grant districts are well supplied with churches and places of worship for all the principal Christian denominations. The newer sections are taken care of by very active home missionaries sent out by the different bodies. These worthy men travel great distances in the effort to reach the scattered settlers. It is not uncommon for one man to hold services on one Sunday in three different places ten or fifteen miles apart, the distance from place to place being travelled by canoe or road between services.

As far as religious or educational advantages are concerned, no one need hesitate to take up his habitation in these new districts. The educational system of Ontario is known all over the world for its thoroughness and progressiveness. At no point is it more completely adapted to its environment than in its application to the newer districts of the Province. No sooner has the settler gone in than the teacher follows him. As soon as a handful of children can be gathered together the school is opened. And such is the efficiency of our system that many of these same children, taught within the four bare walls of a backwoods school, step out into life equal at most and superior in many points to those who have had the benefit of training at the larger centres. Our legislative chambers, our pulpits, universities, banks, warehouses, and offices are full of men whose entire schooling was received in backwoods schools.

When a municipality has been formed it is the duty of the township council to divide the township into school sections so formed that no part of a section shall be more than three miles in a direct line from the schoolhouse.

Township councils are required to provide at least \$150 per annum for each school section by assessment over the whole township.

In unorganized townships, on the petition of five heads of families residing in a certain district, the Public School Inspector can set apart a school section not to exceed five miles in length or breadth. Any person whose house is more than three miles from the schoolhouse is exempt from school tax unless he sends children to the school. The trustees are elected for such districts and these make an assessment and levy taxes, out of which schoolhouses are erected and teachers paid.

The Legislative Assembly annually makes a grant in aid of the cost of education, which grant is apportioned according to population, (providing that the amount payable to every rural school in the territorial districts shall be at least \$100). The School Act of the Province provides that the money so apportioned, shall be paid on or before the first day of July in each year.

The Legislative Grant for the year 1896 in aid of schools was thus apportioned as respects schools in the Free Grant Districts:

Algoma District (grants to rural schools).....	\$11,250 00
Nipissing "	4,083 00
Little Current.....	118 00
Mattawa (rural school \$60 ; Separate school \$77.50)....	137 50
North Bay.....	185 00
" Separate school.....	107 00
Sault Ste. Marie.....	139 00
" Separate school.....	30 50
Gore Bay.....	157 00
Fort William.....	199 00
Port Arthur.....	281 00
Rat Portage Separate school.....	72 50
Rat Portage.....	218 00
Thessalon.....	94 00
Sudbury.....	89 00
Sudbury Separate school.....	43 50

In his report to the Education Department, 1895, Mr. D. McCaig, Public School Inspector of Algoma District, states that 116 school sections have been formed and 101 schools were open for the year. In these schools 110 teachers were employed. He states that in the rural sections alone \$43,096 were spent on education during the year. In the seven towns of the District \$26,176 more were spent, making \$69,272 spent in Algoma in a year on education, of which \$43,910 went in paying teachers' salaries.

Rev. Geo. Grant, Inspector for Nipissing, reports nineteen rural schools in operation, twenty schoolhouses and thirty teachers. Altogether there are now twenty-three public schools in the district, thirty-eight teachers and twenty-four schoolhouses.

Partly Cleared Farms For Sale.

As in all new countries there are in Algoma and Nipissing many settlers who prefer the rough work of pioneering before the more humdrum business of farming. These people make a practice of taking up land, clearing a few acres, putting up a small house and necessary buildings, then selling out to some newcomer and starting again in a new place. This is an arrangement mutually advantageous to all parties. The one party necessarily acquires great expertness and bodily endurance, as well as considerable judgment in the selection of claims, while the other gets done for him, at a cheap rate compared with that at which he could do the work for himself, the very part of the work which bristles with terrors for the newcomer—namely, the fatiguing tramp through the bush in search of a location, and the very trying first few days before a shelter is provided. It is therefore frequently the case that persons who have a little money can avail themselves of an opportunity to purchase a partly-cleared location. They should take care, of course, that the location is a suitable one and also that the seller has a title to that which he proposes to sell. And very great care should be taken that the location is not one which the seller wishes to abandon because he has discovered that he made a mistake in selecting it.

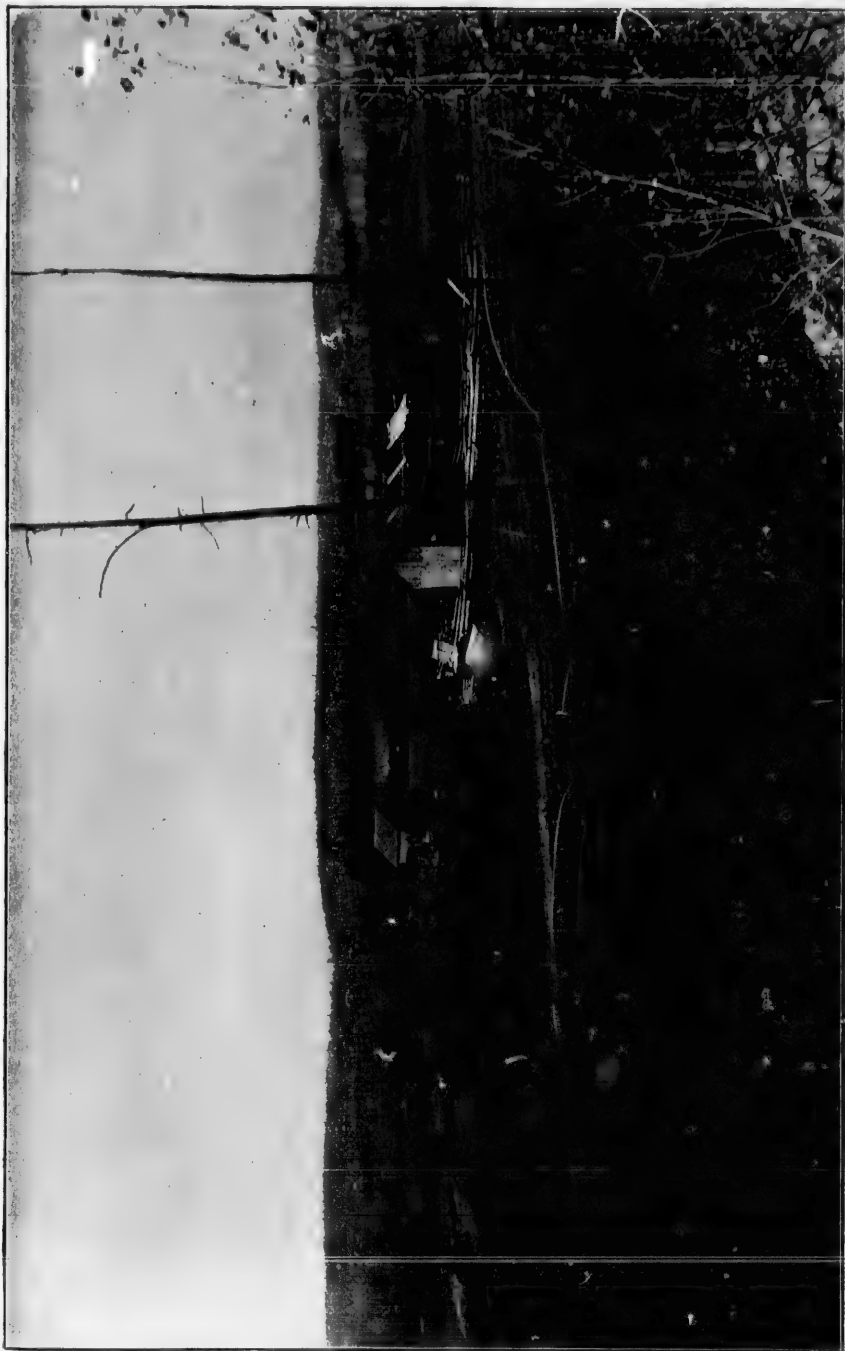
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FARM OF DUNCAN A. McLEAN, MARKSTAY P.O., LOT 11, CON. 4, TOWNSHIP OF HAGAR, DISTRICT OF ALGOMA, 320 ACRES, 30 CLEARED (1894).
CLEARING COMMENCED IN 1890.





FARM OF ARCHIE BROWN, WARREN P.O., LOT 2, CON. 5, TOWNSHIP OF DUNSET, ARGOMA DISTRICT, 320 ACRES, 75 ACRES CLEARED (1894).
CLEARING COMMENCED IN THE FALL OF 1888.

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Means of Access to Algoma and Nipissing.

There is probably no equal area of undeveloped land on the earth which is so easy of access. It has a coast line of many hundred miles indented with many safe and commodious harbors accessible to the rapidly growing commerce of the United States and Canada, and within a few months, on the completion of the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals to fourteen feet, now almost within sight, will be open to the smaller class of ocean-going vessels.

Communicating with the Great Lakes are the several considerable rivers already mentioned, the outlets of large lakes which expand and ramify until they furnish water routes through almost every township. Possession of these waterways renders the settlers in a measure independent of the railways as the latter must always be limited in their freight rates by the proximity and ease of water carriage. Therefore the fact that two of the main lines of the Canadian Pacific Railway pass through the district can only be regarded by the settler as wholly beneficial to him. From east to west the main line of the Canadian Pacific traverses the Algoma district throughout its 800 miles of longitude. The connecting line from the Sault to Sudbury, some 175 miles, which is likely to become one of the most important roads on the continent, also passes its whole length through this district near Mattawa, where the C. P. R.'s northern extension begins. It is complete as far as the foot of the Long Sault Rapids on the Upper Ottawa. In due time it will doubtless be extended northward to Hudson's Bay. Connection is had at North Bay at the head of Lake Nipissing with the Northern and Northwestern Division of the Grand Trunk Railway, which brings Toronto and southern Ontario in close touch with Algoma and Nipissing. It is in fact a run of only about 10 hours from Toronto to North Bay, so that the lands in question may be said to be at our very doors! What a contrast with the times still fresh in the memory of middle-aged men when the then backwoods of Upper Canada say 50 miles from Toronto could only be reached from the ocean by weeks of slow and laborious travel.

Toronto and James Bay Railway.

And soon there will be under construction a line from North Bay, projected northwards until the shores of that great inland sea, Hudson's Bay, shall be reached. This line is already located for a considerable distance. It will strike the northeastern arm of Lake Temagami and the northwesterly arm of Lake Temiscaming and will thence proceed northward by the best available route. It will pass through a country in which there are some rough places, but is stated that it will not be of difficult construction. The company has been granted bonuses by the Governments of Canada and Ontario. The point it is intended to reach is Moose Factory, an old Hudson's Bay trading place situated upon an island in the mouth or estuary of the Moose river. This will be a very important line. Even as a colonization road only it would open up an immense country, the resources of which are probably as great as those of any equal area in the Province. It would beside put this Province in contact with the rich fisheries and the whaling and sealing industries of Hudson's Bay.

There are known to be extensive deposits of coal—brown and black lignite—at many places between Lake Abitibi and the Hudson Bay. Pieces of anthracite have been found along the rivers south of James bay, but so far no mine has been located. The known deposits of iron are of great wealth. Porcelain clay,

or kaolin, of the finest quality is found. In short, an explorer says: "I have no hesitation in pronouncing the James Bay district the richest mineral region in the Dominion, perhaps on the continent."

The distance between James Bay and the Canadian Pacific at North Bay is about 350 miles, in sections as follows:

First section, North Bay to head of Lake Temiscaming..	81 miles.
Second section, Lake Temiscaming to Lake Abbitibbe..	94 "
Third section, Lake Abbitibbe to Moose Factory	175 "
Total.....	350 "

Fish, Game and Wild Animals.

There is no easily accessible part of the world where better sport with the rod or gun can be obtained. The virgin waters teem with fish of all kinds, salmon trout, speckled or brook trout, gray trout, lake trout, river trout, black bass, rock bass, green bass, sturgeon, maskinonge, pike of several kinds, the *jean d'oree* and other pickerel, whitefish, herring, etc. Nearly all the different kinds of fish take the fly or bait or trowl freely. The various rivers and lakes differ strangely in the species of their finny inhabitants. In some, only bass will be found, in others closely adjacent, only pike, or only pickerel. The last named is a very ferocious fish which has made a clean sweep of all other kinds from many a lake. He does not furnish much sport, but it is to be said in his favor that he is very fair food-fish, and grows to great size.

Chiefly among the wild animals is the lordly moose, the largest surviving species of the elk tribe. The moose is still rather abundant in Algoma and Nipissing. In this Province the killing of moose and caribou was forbidden until October, 1900, thanks to which provision a notable increase in their numbers has lately been observed. This district, with the adjacent parts of Quebec, is almost the last home of this gigantic deer, but a few scattered head remain in New Brunswick and part of Maine. A large moose will stand over 16 hands in height, will weigh 1,600 to 2,000 pounds, and his horns will spread six feet.

The caribou, wapiti or reindeer is quite common, so also is the Virginia deer, the smaller one that was once so abundant throughout the northern part of the continent.

Black bears are rather numerous in the unsettled parts, but as a rule they keep out of the way of man. When seen, it is usually in the berry patches, or along the shores of lakes after a windstorm, looking for fish cast up by the waves, or in the spring near the dens in which they have hibernated. They are also seen occasionally in the spring actually fishing, and showing great dexterity in throwing out of the water the suckers and other fish that run up the creeks at that season. Bears are not dangerous to man except in the spring when the cubs are small. Then a she bear will attack anything in defence of her young. Black bears are frequently captured of a weight exceeding 400 pounds. The meat is excellent, having a taste somewhat between pork and beef, and according to the testimony of lumbermen and others, who have to undergo great exertions, bear meat is the strongest and heartiest food a man can eat.

In the far northern part of Nipissing district there is a brown bear, intermediate in size between the black and the polar or white bear. The last named formidable animal is found on the shores of Hudson's bay in great numbers.

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There are not many wolves in the inhabited parts of Algoma and Nipissing, and from the abundance of their food they are not dangerous to man except in the more remote parts, and towards the end of the winter when they hunt in packs, and may become very formidable antagonists. A bounty of \$10 a head is now paid for every wolf destroyed. The head of the wolf with the ears attached has to be produced before a Justice of the Peace, who, on proof being made to him that the animal was killed in his county, or within a mile of a settlement in this county, issues a certificate of the fact of the killing, and cuts off the ears from the wolf's head. On presentation of the certificate, the county treasurer pays \$10. The Provincial Treasurer refunds \$4 of this sum to the county. And where the wolf is killed in the provisional county of Haliburton, or in any district of the Province which does not form part of a county, the wolf's head is produced before a stipendiary or police magistrate, sheriff, crown land or free grant agent, or Division Court clerk, who issues the certificate, for which on presentation the Provincial Treasurer pays \$10.

Beaver are still to be found, also red, black and silver-grey fox, mink, fisher, marten, otter and other fur-bearing animals. The settlers in the remoter districts make a good deal of money by trapping, a business which is also carried on by persons who give up their whole time to it, and frequently amass considerable sums of money. No beaver or otter is to be killed until 1st November, 1900.

Among the birds are several species of wild geese and swans, many of ducks, teal, rail, loons, divers, woodcock, snipe, cranes, bitterns, herons, plovers, partridge or grouse; hawks, ravens, crows and eagles; and a multitude of small migrating birds which render the woods beautiful and lively from snow-time to snow-time. Among these are several species of humming birds, the scarlet tanager, the oriole, the bluebird, several kinds of blackbird, the robin or thrush and several other thrushes, the kingfisher, the swallow, the indigo bird, many kinds of woodpeckers, the goldfinch, the jays, the titmouse and many others.

Game and Fishery Laws.

The Dominion and Provincial Parliaments have passed laws to prevent the wanton destruction of fish and game, and for the establishment of close seasons. The principal points so far as the unsettled districts are concerned are:

Moose, elk, reindeer or caribou are not to be killed before 25th October, 1900. No deer, elk, moose, caribou, partridge, quail, woodcock, snipe, ducks or any other game bird shall at any time be hunted or killed for the purpose of exporting the same out of Ontario. No person shall in any one year take more than two deer, elk, moose, reindeer or caribou, except that Indians and settlers in the unorganized districts may kill for their own immediate use and for food only. Hunting or killing deer by crusting or while they are yarding or while in the water is forbidden.

Non-residents are required to take out a license to shoot deer during the season, the price being \$25.00. Bona-fide settlers in organized or unorganized townships are entitled to take out a license without charge, and to shoot thereunder not more than two deer each.

Census Statistics of Algoma and Nipissing.

Here follow a number of very interesting and convincing statistics relating to the free grant townships, taken from the Dominion Census, the Ontario Bureau of Industries Reports and other official sources. It will be seen that these districts have made, and are making, very great progress :

Population Returns, Dominion Census, 1891.

Algoma, Eastern Division.

	Population.		Population.
Algoma Mills.....	620	Root River and Korah.....	591
Bruce Mines.....	750	Sault Centre.....	991
Day.....	834	Sault Eastern.....	471
Echo River.....	499	Sault Western.....	952
Garden River.....	606	Spanish River.....	1,400
Goulais Bay.....	239	St. Joseph.....	367
Grande Pointe.....	137	Tenby Bay.....	369
Hallam and Graham.....	702	Thessalon.....	1,160
Hilton.....	389		
Killarney.....	501		14,439
Kirkwood.....	185	Algoma, western division.....	17,124
Mamainse.....	104	Manitoulin.....	9,093
Michipicoten.....	115	Unorganized territory.....	1,200
Missisagua.....	789		
Otter Tail.....	873	Total of Algoma.....	41,856
Fort Findley.....	795		

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	Population.		Population.
Camden, Deacon and Fitzgerald.	242	Springer, Field, Badgerow and Caldwell	1,480
Mattawa village	1,437	Kirkpatrick, Hugel, Rutter and Dunnett	535
Papineau and Mattawa	694	Appleby, Hagar, Awrey, Hawley Dryden, Dill and Nelson ..	155
Calvin, Lauder, Ballantyne, Wilkes, Pentland, Paxton, Biggar, Osler, Lister, and Boyd	549	Blezard, McKim, including Sudbury and Broder	2,358
Bonfield, Chisholm, Boulter and Ferris	2,249	Finlayson and Peck	204
North Bay (town), Widdifield, Phelps and Orlig	2,210	Unorganized territory	910
Nipissing, Indian Reserve,			13,023

Occupiers of Lands and Lands Occupied—1891.

Population.		Algoma.	Nipissing
591	Total number of occupiers of land	5,068	1,162
991	Of whom are owners	4,477	1,064
471	“ tenants	552	78
952	“ employees	39	20
1,400	Acres occupied	760,062	198,242
367	“ improved	144,891	26,148
369	“ under crops	112,462	17,552
1,160	“ in pasture	29,848	8,277
14,439	“ woodland and forest	615,171	172,094
17,124	“ gardens and orchards	2,581	319
9,093			
1,200			
41,856			

Comparison of Population with Former Censuses.

	1871.	1881.	1891.	Increase per cent. 1881 to 1891.
Algoma	7,018	24,014	41,856	74.3
Nipissing	1,791	1,959	13,020	564.6
Muskoka and Parry Sound	3,584	17,636	26,515	10.3
	12,393	43,609	81,391	86.6

Increase from 1881 to 1891	37,782
“ 1871 to 1891	68,998

It should be mentioned that the figures given above are for the Dominion constituencies as they existed in 1891, the figures for 1871 and 1881 having been recast to suit the altered boundaries. The figures above, therefore, do not give any true idea of the very great progress which has been made by the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts. The following is a comparison of the population of the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts of 1871 with the population of the same townships in 1891:

Population of Muskoka and Parry Sound districts in 1871 ..	6,919
Population in 1891 of the same territory as was comprised in the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts in 1871	36,818

That is to say, the population of the free grant townships, formerly comprised within the limits of Muskoka and Parry Sound, has been multiplied by five and a half in the period named. From causes set forth at the commencement of this pamphlet, it appears almost certain that the increase in the free grant townships will be even greater in the future than it has been in the past.

Centres of Population.

Eastern Algoma and North Nipissing contain the following towns:

NORTH NIPISSING—		Municipal census, 1896.
North Bay	2,027	
Mattawa	1,698	
Sturgeon Falls	886	
Sudbury	1,598	
EASTERN ALGOMA—		
Gore Bay	520	
Little Current	700	
Sault Ste. Marie	3,186	
Thessalon	780	

Municipal Statistics, 1896.

The Bureau of Industries has collected the following statistics relating to Algoma and Nipissing:

Assessment and Taxation.

	No. of acres assessed.	Assessment.	Taxes imposed for all purposes.	
			Total.	Per head.
Nipissing, rural	242,712	544,820	15,539	2.51
“ urban	6,209	1,151,907	29,206	4.70
Algoma, Manitoulin, Rainy River and Thunder Bay, rural	825,328	2,568,523	51,643	3.79
Algoma, Manitoulin, Rainy River and Thunder Bay, urban	29,305	4,553,197	113,267	8.21

The above figures relate only to those townships and towns which have been organized for municipal purposes. Before organization, no taxes are levied except for school purposes as set forth elsewhere.

Crops

NOTE
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Fall wheat
Spring wheat
Barley
Oats
Rye
Peas
Corn
Buckwheat
Beans
Potatoes
Mangel w
Carrots
Turnips

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Northern
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California
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Wisconsin
Minnesota
Iowa
Nebraska
Dakota

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Crops of 1896—Northern Districts Compared with the whole Province.

NOTE.—In these tables the term "Northern Districts" includes the townships having a municipal organization in Algoma, Nipissing, Muskoka and Parry Sound.

	Acres northern district.	Bushels northern district.	Bushels per acre northern district.	Bushels per acre, whole province.
Fall wheat	1,139	29,260	25.7	17.2
Spring wheat	4,265	61,995	14.5	13.8
Barley	2,373	56,868	24.0	27.4
Oats	39,595	1,173,367	29.6	34.2
Rye	871	13,711	15.7	15.0
Peas	17,904	404,662	22.6	21.1
Corn	557	26,836	48.2	75.8
Buckwheat	997	18,846	18.9	17.9
Beans	126	1,807	14.3	17.5
Potatoes	4,782	679,661	14.2	119.0
Mangel wurzels	204	77,902	382.0	467.0
Carrots	399	131,638	330.0	374.0
Turnips	3,182	1,087,408	342.0	471.0
Corn for fodder	561	tons. 5,669	9.93	10.89
Hay and clover	74,123	86,223	1.16	.93

Comparison of Northern Districts of Ontario with principal grain growing States of the American Union and Manitoba.

Crops of 1896 per acre.

	Fall wheat, bush.	Spring wheat, bush.	Barley bush.	Oats, bush.
Northern Districts of Ontario	25.7	14.5	24.0	29.6
New York	18.1			31.7
Pennsylvania	16.6			31.7
Ohio	18.8			31.7
Michigan	13.2			23.9
Indiana	9.2			22.9
Illinois	11.0			24.4
Missouri	12.0			
Kansas	7.7			
California	13.0		20.3	
Manitoba		27.8	36.7	
Wisconsin		15.6	29.3	33.8
Minnesota		23.0	36.0	39.9
Iowa		19.5	28.0	46.2
Nebraska		12.0	28.4	23.8
Dakotas		16.7		

It will be seen from the above that the northern districts of Ontario show up remarkably well in comparison with the most fertile districts of the United States.

Northern Ontario Crops of 1896 Compared with the Average of former years.

	1896.	Average of fifteen years, 1882-1896.
Spring wheat, bushels per acre	14.5	17.4
Barley "	24.0	23.2
Oats "	29.6	30.5

Value of Farm Property in the Northern Districts in 1895 and 1883.

	1895.	1883.
Farm land	\$6,705,074	\$4,691,435
Buildings	2,023,382	998,665
Implements	727,177	330,570
Live stock	1,945,719	978,015
Total farm property	<u>\$11,401,352</u>	<u>\$6,998,685</u>

The above shows that in the face of the great decline in farm values which has taken place in Britain, the United States, and other parts of the world, the free grant districts of Ontario have made very satisfactory progress during the decade.

Live Stock.

Number of Head in the Northern Districts of Ontario in the year 1896.

No.	No.
Working horses	7,076
Breeding mares	1,546
Unbroken horses	2,267
Total horses	<u>10,889</u>
Hogs, over 1 year	5,362
" under 1 year	14,291
Total hogs	<u>19,653</u>
Wool clip, fleece	33,904
" pounds	179,298
" pounds per fleece	5.29
Working oxen	797
Milch cows	16,369
Store cattle over 2 years	7,382
Young and other cattle	23,504
Total cattle	<u>48,052</u>
Sheep, over 1 year	34,149
" under 1 year	25,016
	<u>59,165</u>
Poultry—turkeys	12,341
" geese	6,022
" other fowls	107,004
	<u>125,367</u>

former years.

average of fifteen
years, 1882-1898.

17.4
23.2
30.5

Live stock sold in 1896, horses.	852
" cattle.	9,115
" sheep..	16,453
" hogs....	17,493
" poultry	43,316

Value of Live Stock on Hand 1895.

Horses	\$765,500
Cattle	813,059
Sheep	216,102
Hogs	112,540
Poultry	38,518
	\$1,945,719

Value Per Head of Live Stock Sold or Killed in Northern Districts in 1896.

	Value per head.
Horses sold.....	\$59 00
Cattle sold or killed	21 90
Sheep "	3 37
Hogs "	8 09
Poultry "	31

and 1883.

1883.

91,435
98,665
30,570
78,015

98,685

Wages of Farm Laborers in Northern Districts in 1895.

	Northern districts.	Average of whole province.
With board, per year	\$178 00	\$150 00
Without board, per year	277 00	246 00
With board, per month in working season	17 73	15 38
Without board, per month in working season....	28 07	25 45

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NOTE.—It should be borne in mind, that only the best men can get high wages. An inexperienced hand would have to be contented with less pay.

year 1896.

No.

797
16,369
7,382
23,504
48,052

Northern Fruit Statistics.

Returns to the Ontario Department of Agriculture (Bureau of Industries) in 1896 by farmers and fruit-growers give the following as the number of fruit trees in Algoma, Nipissing, Muskoka, Parry Sound, Manitoulin, Thunder Bay and Rainy River:

34,149
25,016
59,165
12,341
6,022
107,004
125,367

	Over fifteen years of age.	Under fifteen years of age.
Apple trees.....	8,549	68,386

The number of acres in orchard and gardens in the northern districts, was:

In 1889.....	526 acres.
In 1893.....	1,109 "

An increase of more than 100 per cent.
3 N.D.

Apples and Grapes for Northern Districts.

The Ontario Fruit Growers' Association recommend the following varieties of apples and grapes as most desirable for planting in Algoma, Nipissing, Simcoe, Muskoka and Parry Sound :

APPLES.—*Summer*, Duchess of Oldenburg and Yellow Transparent.
Autumn, Alexander, Colvert, Red Bietigheimer and St. Lawrence.
Winter, Pewaukee, Golden Russet, Scott's Winter, LaRue, Wealthy.

GRAPES.—*Black*, Worden, Moore's Early, Champion.
Red, Delaware, Lindley, Wyoming Red.
White, Jessica, Moore's Diamond, Lady.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees for the North.

In the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association Report for 1891, Mr. J. P. Cockburn of Gravenhurst, says :

No resident of Muskoka need send to the nursery for trees wherewith to decorate his lawn or garden, while such shrubs as the dogwood, juneberries, arrow-wood, black alder, high bush cranberries, striped maple, mountain maple, witch hazel and a dozen other sorts may be had for the digging; but where there is no taste there is no knowledge. It is the few who have had a desire for these things, and more especially the wives of the settlers who have persistently tried to grow the fruits they formerly enjoyed in their "Old homes at the front," that we owe much of our success at the present time, and it is much to their credit that they have shown us the possibilities of Muskoka as a fruit-growing district. Still the great majority are "regarding the winds," although many have placed a few trees in the most careless manner and without any enclosure other than the rude structure which encircles the barn and house in the same field. The trees grow well the first season, but after the cows have browsed and scratched themselves against the stumps the first winter, because the trees fail to grow the poor settler utters vengeance against the tree agent for selling trees that do not bloom the following season. These are troubles and prejudices it takes time to overcome in a new country, but now the most dubious are convinced that apples of the best quality can be grown in Muskoka of such varieties as Duchess of Oldenburg, Yellow Transparent, Wealthy, Haas, Tetofsky, Walbride, Alexander and many of the standard winter sorts, together with several hardy seedlings of great merit. Our long warm days and cold, dewy nights develop all the beauty of form and coloring possible, and there is room for the product of many orchards in the district to supply the local demand at good prices, and no man need be afraid of the venture who will make a judicious selection of varieties.

The much abused Champion grape grows to great perfection here. Our soil seems to almost change the variety, the skin gets thin, the pulp juicy, sweet and sprightly. All the early Rogers, Concord, Jessica, and Brighton, ripen well in the open air. Currants and gooseberries grow here to great perfection, and on our warm soil mildew is unknown except in some damp and shady nooks. Strawberries need little or no protection in winter as the snow makes a more effective protection than any other. For home use I find the Manchester, Bubach and Jessie are all that is desired. Raspberries, blueberries and blackberries of the best quality grow wild and can be had for the picking.

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For the following information this department is indebted to the Meteorological Office, Toronto. It will be found very interesting and it effectually disposes of any idea that these northern districts of Ontario should be shunned on account of extremes of climate, the fact being that the weather in Algoma and Nipissing compares favorably with that of any part of Canada, except South-Western Ontario, and with that of a very large part of the United States.

Mr. J. P.

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Mean Temperature.

Town.	Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Sault Ste. Marie	1890	16.5	15.7	35.9	45.0	62.5	63.0	59.3	54.0	45.9	32.8	20.0	
	1891	17.1	16.2	22.7	39.5	48.7	62.1	58.6	62.2	63.6	43.9	31.2	30.9
	1892	12.9	18.4	22.3	35.6	50.3	60.5	64.9	62.7	57.2	43.9	29.9	19.4
	1893	4.0	9.2	18.5	34.3	47.2	61.7	63.8	62.9	53.1	46.2	32.6	13.6
	1894	14.9	10.9	30.0	35.0	45.9	57.6	56.0	56.0	55.0	44.0	28.1	25.2
	1895	13.2	9.9	15.7	39.2	52.5	61.7	60.7	61.3	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mattawa	1890	9.6	14.7	16.5	35.5	45.6	63.5	64.1	58.0	53.0	45.8	29.6	8.1
	1891	8.3	12.3	.....	.....	.....	61.8	61.5	60.2	59.7	41.3	20.6	26.3
	1892	3.5	11.6	19.4	36.1	49.3	62.5	65.7	65.0	55.3	42.1	23.0	10.5
	1893	-2.3	2.4	17.2	34.1	50.8	66.9	.....	63.5	51.4	46.5	30.4	5.5
	1894	6.3	4.2	26.5	40.5	63.3	65.1	58.6	67.0	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1895	4.1	9.5	14.1	41.8	56.5	67.1	63.5	63.2	57.3	36.8	26.6	21.3
	1896	7.3	8.7	13.2	44.6	55.9	63.0	65.3	63.4	52.9	40.9	31.1	13.8
Little Forks, Rainy Lake ..	1890	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41.1	38.6	29.4	-0.3
	1891	3.2	3.6	22.3	41.6	56.5	62.6	60.5	64.8	51.2	44.9	18.8	9.4
	1892	-1.4	6.8	16.1	38.1	44.4	57.8	62.6	53.4	53.1	50.2	25.5	-2.2
	1893	-9.5	-10.2	10.7	33.1	50.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Francis....	1894	1.3	3.0	24.3	38.5	.....	.....	64.3	62.1	55.1	37.7	20.4	12.0
	1895	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64.3	62.1	55.1	37.7	20.4	12.0
	1896	3.6	9.8	13.3	37.5	55.3	63.2	65.8	63.2	50.1	.....	.....	.....
Haileybury	1894	.....	.....	25.9	37.0	50.0	62.7	66.2	58.8	55.9	.....	23.0	17.3
	1895	3.4	9.8	14.0	38.1	52.0	65.3	62.6	61.1	55.8	36.0	28.2	18.0
	1896	5.0	10.5	12.7	40.2	54.3	61.5	65.0	62.2	50.7	38.2	28.4	12.2
													

Precipitation.

Sault Ste. Marie	1890	.....	.....	.....	4.79	6.47	3.60	5.21	3.73	3.34	0.82	2.38	2.90
	1891	2.55	4.90	4.10	2.18	0.50	1.14	2.76	3.12	0.72	2.49	5.28	3.17
	1892	2.10	1.20	0.20	1.82	2.70	2.93	1.80	1.62	2.39	2.68	3.88	6.90
	1893	3.20	3.10	0.60	3.25	3.95	8.39	4.46	1.81	4.64	2.32	4.04	5.90
	1894	6.45	0.20	0.64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.95	3.76	3.94	1.90
	1895	1.84	2.24	0.82	1.77	3.37	0.78	1.49	1.58	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mattawa	1890	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.07	3.06	3.11	1.42	2.64	1.66	1.25	1.90
	1891	1.90	0.50	1.15	2.02	1.00	0.77	4.16	4.64	1.95	1.07	2.77	1.06
	1892	2.87	1.47	0.85	1.67	0.98	3.60	0.75	3.18	4.43	1.64	2.27	2.52
	1893	3.62	1.71	1.28	2.25	4.01	4.29	.....	2.64	3.26	1.57	1.68	3.50
	1894	3.88	1.53	1.37	0.58	.....	2.61	3.36	0.76	2.95	.....	.....	.....
	1895	2.90	1.45	0.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.50	0.16	1.92	2.20	.....
Little Forks, Rainy Lake ..	1896	2.35	1.11	1.55	1.00	0.63	2.94	3.99	4.05	4.56	2.80	4.24	0.30
	1890	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.05	0.20	0.37	0.90
	1891	1.03	1.80	0.60	4.80	4.65	6.70	10.00	2.50	11.20	5.10	0.76	4.66
	1892	0.99	0.70	0.70	8.40	7.60	5.60	6.20	9.35	1.93	0.16	0.63	0.50
Fort Francis	1893	1.47	2.35	3.21	5.30	2.41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1894	0.72	0.02	2.55	4.19	.....	.....	.....	2.79	2.54	2.00	1.21	1.30
	1895	0.70	0.60	2.05	2.38	5.19	2.32	3.13	3.32	1.37	.....	.....	.....
Haileybury	1896	0.70	0.60	2.05	2.38	5.19	2.32	3.13	3.32	1.37	.....	.....	.....
	1894	9.63	1.33	3.39	1.29	4.40	2.59	2.53	2.08	3.08	.....	2.65	2.26
	1895	2.84	1.00	0.54	1.78	2.86	3.52	2.93	3.22	2.48	1.46	1.93	2.51
Haileybury	1896	2.13	1.85	1.37	1.63	4.27	1.18	4.34	4.45	4.72	0.79	4.35	0.88

Average Annual Rainfall.

The returns from these newly settled districts are of necessity fragmentary. Fuller information is available with respect to Muskoka and Parry Sound, where it appears from observations, extending back several years, the average rainfall and snowfall (one inch of rain counted as ten inches of snow) has been 36.95 inches per annum.

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Comparison of Temperatures.

Take the coldest month, February. The mean temperature of that month in 1894, at Sault Ste. Marie, was 10.9, but the average mean temperature of that month in a series of years was 17°. For purposes of comparison the February mean temperature of a number of United States and Canadian places is here given:

1894. February Mean Temperatures.

Nov.	Dec.
°	°
32.8	20.0
31.2	30.9
29.9	19.4
32.6	13.6
28.1	25.2
29.6	8.1
20.6	26.8
23.0	10.5
30.4	5.5
26.6	21.3
31.1	13.8
29.4	-0.3
18.8	9.4
25.5	-2.2
20.4	12.0
23.0	17.3
28.2	18.0
28.4	12.2

Toronto	22.6	Portland, Maine	20.2
Montreal	15.6	Boston, Mass	26.6
Quebec	12.3	Albany, N.Y.	21.2
Fredericton	15.8	Buffalo, N.Y.	22.8
Winnipeg	-2.0	Oswego, N.Y.	20.6
Gravenhurst	15.7	Chicago, Ill.	23.0
Guelph	17.4	Milwaukee, Wis.	21.0
Elora	19.2	Duluth, Minn.	14.6
Lindsay	17.1	Port Huron, Mich.	21.6
Kingston	18.4	Moorhead, N.D.	8.8
Barrie	19.6	St. Vincent, N.D.	4.5
Woodstock	18.3	Bismarek, N.D.	10.3
London	19.5	Minneapolis, Minn.	15.7
Brantford	21.6	St. Paul, Minn.	14.2
Ottawa	9.8	La Crosse, Wis.	18.7
Peterborough	12.5	Davenport, Iowa	22.1
Orillia	10.7	Des Moines, Iowa	20.5
Collingwood	15.6	Dubuque, Iowa	20.0
Halifax	19.3	Cookston, Dak.	7.0

Land Titles—Torrens System.

The Land Titles Act, or Torrens system, applies to Algoma, Thunder Bay, Rainy River, Muskoka, Parry Sound and Nipissing. All patents issued since 1887 have been entered in the Land Titles office, and as to patents issued before that time the land can, at the option of the owner, be put under the Land Titles Act at any time. Under this system, dealing with land is very simple and expeditious, as each successive owner, on registration, acquires an estate in fee simple, and the laborious and costly investigation of the titles of preceding owners is dispensed with.

Free Grants and Homesteads.

Persons desiring to take the benefit of the Free Grants Act must apply to the Crown Land Agent for the district in which they intend to settle. The agent will give them information as to what land is open for settlement and will furnish them with printed forms of affidavits which are necessary to be made by the applicants.

On being properly located by a Crown Lands Agent and on performance of settlement duties, a single man over eighteen, or a married man without children under eighteen residing with him, or the female head of a family having children under eighteen residing with her, is entitled to a free grant of 100 acres. If the

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been 36.95

2.38	2.90
5.28	3.17
3.88	6.90
4.04	5.90
3.94	1.90
1.25	1.90
2.77	1.05
2.27	2.52
1.68	3.50
1.92	2.20
4.24	0.30
0.37	0.90
0.76	4.65
0.63	0.59
1.30	0.80
2.65	2.26
1.93	2.51
4.35	0.88

100 acres selected consists of a considerable portion of rock, swamp or waste land, the Commissioner of Crown Lands may make an allowance for such waste land and may increase the quantity of land located to any number of acres not exceeding 200 acres. The male head of a family, having a child or children under eighteen residing with him or her may be located for 200 acres as a free grant. And such male head of a family is permitted to purchase another 100 acres at 50 cents per acre cash, at the time of location.

In the townships which are laid out in sections or lots of 320 acres or 160 acres, the locatee will be entitled only to 160 acres, and he or she may purchase another 160 acres for 50 cents an acre cash.

Upon being located, the locatee may enter and improve his land, and he is required to do so within one month.

Settlement duties as follows must be performed by all locatees and purchasers.

(1) *At least fifteen acres to be cleared and had under cultivation, of which two acres at least are to be cleared and cultivated annually during the five years.*

(2) *To have built a habitable house, at least 16 by 20 feet in size.*

(3) *And to have resided actually and continuously upon and cultivated the land for five years after location and thence to the issue of the patent.*

The locatee, however, may be absent from the land on business or at work for not more than six months in any one year.

Where the locatee owns two lots the improvements may be made on either or both.

A locatee purchasing an additional 100 acres must within five years clear fifteen acres and cultivate the same. If the lot is adjacent to the lot on which he resides the patent may issue for the purchased lot at the expiration of the time required by law, provided he has thirty acres cleared upon his homestead.

The pine trees and minerals are not sold to the free grant settler, but the settler has the privilege of cutting pine in the course of clearing, also for building purposes and fencing upon his lot. If he sells any of the pine cut in the course of clearing he must pay timber dues upon it. On the issue of the patent, the title to the pine remains in the Crown, but the patentee is entitled to receive one-third of the timber dues paid by the licensee on pine cut on the patentee's lot after the 30th of April next following the issue of the patent.

On the 30th of April next following the location of any lot, the right of the timber licensee to cut any timber other than pine on the settler's lot ceases.

(For an abstract of the law concerning pine and other timber on lands purchased at 20 and 50 cents an acre, see on former page under the heading "Forest Productions.")

Holders of timber licenses have the right to haul timber over the uncleared portion of any land located or sold, to make roads for that purpose, to use all slides, portages and roads and to have free access to all streams and lakes.

The Crown reserves the right to construct on any land located or sold, any colonization road or any deviation from the Government allowance for road; and to take without compensation any timber, gravel or material required for such road.

Before the issue of the patent, any assignment or mortgage of a homestead is invalid. This does not apply to devise by will nor to transfer of land for church, cemetery, or school purposes or the right of way of railroads.

After the issue of the patent and within twenty years from location, any conveyance, mortgage or alienation by a locatee will be invalid unless it be by

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deed in which his wife is one of the grantors. But if the wife is a lunatic, or living apart from her husband for two years, under such circumstances as disentitle her to alimony, or if the wife has not been heard of for seven years, a Judge of the High Court may order that her concurrence be dispensed with.

The land is not liable for debts created before the issue of the patent.

The land while owned by the locatee, his widow, heirs, or devisees is exempt, for twenty years after location, from liability for debts except debts secured by mortgage made after the issue of the patent, and except from sale for taxes.

When a locatee dies, whether before or after issue of patent, leaving a widow, she is entitled to take the land during her widowhood unless she prefers to take her dower instead.

Townships Open for Location under the Free Grants and Homestead Act.

The following townships have been opened for location as free grants in the districts treated in this book.

Powassan Agency.

Hardy,
Hinsworth,

Nipissing,
Laurier,

Patterson.
Chisholm.

Agent, J. S. Scarlett, POWASSAN.

The route from Toronto is by Grand Trunk Railway; from eastern points by Canadian Pacific to North Bay, thence by Grand Trunk Railway to Powassan.

Mattawa Agency.

Bonfield,
Calvin,

Ferris,
Mattawan

Papineau.

Agent, B. J. Gilligan, Mattawa.

The route from Toronto to Mattawa is by the Grand Trunk Railway to North Bay, thence by Canadian Pacific.

Thessalon Agency.

Plummer.

Agent, W. L. Nichols, Thessalon.

The route is from Toronto to Collingwood or Owen Sound by railway, thence by steamer; or from Toronto by Grand Trunk Railway to North Bay, thence by Canadian Pacific.

St. Joseph Island Agency.

St. Joseph Island.

Agent, George Hamilton, Richard's Landing.

The route is the same as to Bruce Mines.

Sault Ste. Marie Agency.

Korah,

Parke,

Prince.

Agent, Wm. Turner, Sault Ste. Marie.

The route is from Toronto to Collingwood, thence to the Sault by steamer or from Toronto by the Grand Trunk Railway to North Bay, thence by Canadian Pacific.

Lands Which Are Open For Sale.

In the following townships in the District of Algoma, the lands are sold at the rate of twenty cents per acre cash, subject to conditions of (1) actual residence on the land purchased for three years from date of purchase; (2) clearing and having under cultivation and crop at least ten acres for every 100 acres purchased; and (3) building a habitable house 16x20 ft. at least. Pine trees are reserved from such sales until the 30th April next following the issue of the patent:

At 20 cents per acre and settlement duties.

Thessalon Agency.

Bright and Bright additional,
Coffin and Coffin additional,
Day,
Galbraith,
Gladstone,

Haughton, Patton.
Johnson, Rose,
Kirkwood, Tarbutt and Tarbutt additional,
Lefroy, Thompson,
Parkinson, Wells,

Agent, Wm. L. Nichols, Thessalon.

Spanish River Agency.

Victoria,
Hallam,

Salter,
May,

Shedden,

Agent, Duncan G. McDonald, Massey Station.

Massey Station is on the Sault Ste. Marie Branch of the Canadian Pacific.

At 50 cents per acre and settlement duties.

The lands in the following townships in the Districts of Nipissing and Algoma are open for sale at 50 cents per acre, one-half cash and the balance in two years with interest at six per cent., subject to the conditions of (1) actual residence on the land purchased for four years from date of purchase; (2) clearing and putting under cultivation ten acres for every 100 purchased; (3) building a habitable house 16x20 ft. at least. Pine trees are reserved from such sales until the 30th April next following the issue of the patents:

Sturgeon Falls Agency.

Caldwell,

Springer,

McKim.

Agent, J. D. Cockburn, Sturgeon Falls.

Sturgeon Falls is a station on the Canadian Pacific west of the Northern and Pacific Junction.

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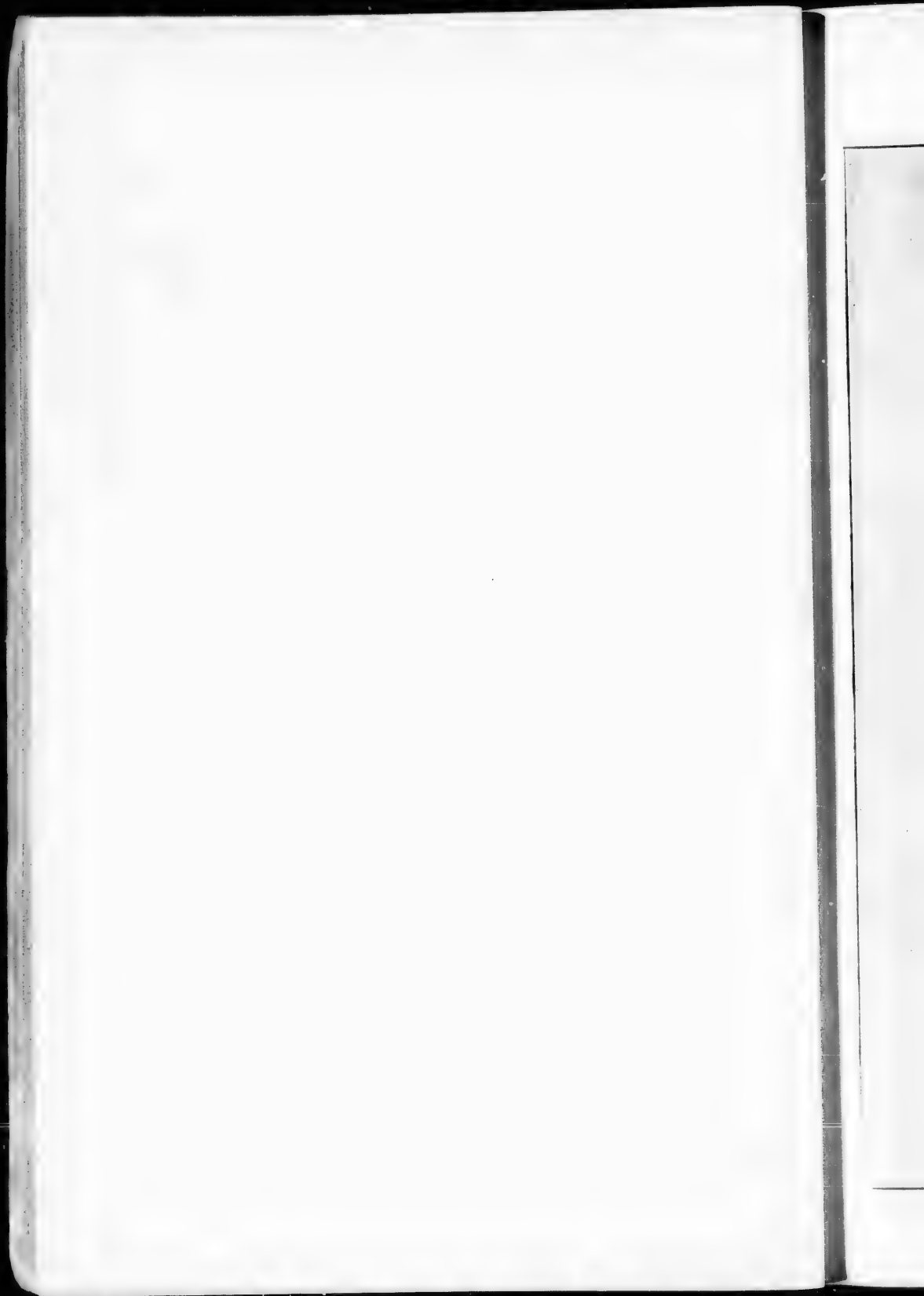
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FARM NEAR CALLANDER STATION, C. P. R., NIPISING DISTRICT (1894).





FARM OF W. N. MURPHY, MATTAWA P.O., LOT 37, CON. P, TOWNSHIP OF MATTAWA, NIPISSING DISTRICT, CONTAINING 700 ACRES,
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Sudbury Agency.

Balfour,

Dowling,

Rayside.

Agent, Thos. J. Ryan, Sudbury.

Sudbury is a station on the C. P. R., at the junction of the main line with the Sault branch.

Railway Lands For Sale.

At \$2 per acre and settlement duties ; also at the prices fixed under the Mines Act.

Under the Railway Aid Act 1889, the undermentioned townships have been withdrawn from the Free Grants Act and set aside to be sold, the proceeds to be applied to forming a fund to recoup the Province in respect of moneys expended in aiding railways.

The terms of sale are : When such lands possess a mineral value they will be sold at the prices set forth in the Mines Act, which see. When suited for agricultural purposes the lands will be sold at \$2 per acre payable one-third in cash and the balance in two equal annual instalments with interest at six per cent. The purchaser will be entitled to a patent at the expiration of two years from the date of sale upon completion of settlement duties, viz : two years' actual occupation ; clearing and having under crop ten acres for every 100 acres ; and the erection of a habitable house 16x20 ft. at least. The pine and minerals are reserved except what pine may be necessary to the purchaser for building and fencing.

Spanish River Agency.
Baldwin,
South half of Nairn,Foster
South half of Lorne.

Merritt,

Agent, D. G. McDonald, Massey Station.

Sturgeon Falls Agency.

Widdifield.

Agent, J. D. Cockburn, Sturgeon Falls.

Mineral Lands.

Mines and minerals are not included in grants or sales under the Free Grant Act, or sales under the Public Lands Act for agricultural purposes after May 4th, 1891.

The grantees of such land are, however, entitled to compensation for all injury to their surface rights caused by mining operations.

Mining lands may be acquired from the Crown either by purchase or lease.

A brief explanation of the mining laws of the Province will be found on another page. Anyone wishing for fuller information, should apply to the Director of the Bureau of Mines, Toronto.

WHAT THE SETTLERS SAY

REGARDING ALGOMA.

The following notes are extracted from a pamphlet prepared by Algoma settlers in 1892, entitled "Algoma Farmers Testify," and from other sources:

Any settler in Algoma can testify to the following facts:

The abundance of good water, the absence of drouth or summer frosts, or blizzards. The fertility of the soil, and the rapid growth in summer. The abundance of good wood and timber. The fact that directly the snow goes off the grass is green, and that cattle and sheep can pasture outside in the woods and commons, etc., till very late in the fall or early in the winter and will thrive on the wild grass and herbage; that the rocky ridges are covered with grass and herbage very suitable and nourishing for sheep and that white clover is indigenous everywhere and that there are thousands of acres of magnificent lands along the different rivers suitable for ranching or pasturing cattle. That wheat, spring and fall, oats, barley, peas and other crops do extremely well and yield largely. That the hay crop is enormous. That roots of all kinds, potatoes, turnips, mangolds, etc., do exceedingly well. That gardening pays here, that everything which can be or usually is grown in a garden can be successfully and profitably grown here. That fruits of different kinds can be grown here in abundance. That the strawberry, raspberry, huckleberry, cranberry, etc., grow wild here in abundance. That currants of the different kinds do well here, also plums, cherries, apples and crab apples. And further that the farmer coming here with a little means and a practical knowledge of farming would escape a great many hardships and privations, as he would find here roads, schools, churches, stores, etc., and would not have to undergo a great many of the privations which the pioneer in other countries had to endure.

Here follow a number of statements by settlers as to their experience:

"Land fertile. Good yields of wheat, peas and oats. Roots of all kinds do well."

"Grows good grain of all kinds; grows good roots also. The very best fruits such as cherries, plums, currants and apples. Cattle and sheep do extra well here. Have a large number of bees which do well also. Have handled bees for forty years and never saw them do so well."

"Directly the snow goes away in the spring the grass comes up green and it stays green and luxuriant all summer—does not wither or get parched or brown as in other countries."

"Farmers are commencing to set out orchards all over the district, and the trees are doing well. There were more splendid exhibits of apples, pears and other fruits at the recent fall exhibition at Sault Ste. Marie."

"One good thing about Algoma is that there is a home market and good prices for all a farmer, stock-raiser, fruit-grower or market gardener can raise or grow."

From Mr. Andrew McAuley, Goulais Bay: "I bought (May, 1886) 160 acres and, since another 130 acres. There was not one tree chopped on the land. We have now 73 acres cleared, and a clear deed of the property and not a cent against it, with sufficient stock to use all the feed we can grow. Besides all this we have raised twelve children, all living and healthy." Mr. McAuley describes himself as having been "a novice in farming who came here, with hardly any money at all."

"Lots of men in Algoma came here and started without any means at all. Those who were hard-working and persevering have got on well and are doing well now, and are in comfortable circumstances, even though they had very little money when they came here. I think that this is the experience of nearly every farmer in Algoma."

R. A. Lyon, Sault Ste. Marie: "I have seen clearing commenced in March, the land cleared and sown in May, and off the same land came thirty bushels of spring wheat to the acre harvested in September."

"Hog-raising pays very well here. You can sell your young pigs from five to six weeks old at \$5 to \$6 per pair right here in my own township, and we have a good market for pork at Sault Ste. Marie all the year round."

"Have done well here. Made more property in one year than I ever made in my life before."

"I like the country well. It is the best I know for stock-raising as well as grain of all kinds."

"I have been running a grist mill for a number of years, and fine farmers doing well in this part, and also find quality of grain first-class."

"Can grow good crops of grain and roots and garden stuff. Have made a good living from the first."

"I think this district second to none in the world for mixed farming."

"I think sheep raising would be very profitable. Sheep and cattle run wild through the woods and wild commons and beaver meadows. I have two orchards planted, both doing well."

"Came here with hardly any money at all. Now would not take less than \$1,000 for stock and property."

"After having travelled over all the Western States in search of a home, I came here with small means. I am now doing well, with a good stock of cattle sheep and horses of my own, and, thank God, all paid for."

"Climate particularly adapted for stock."

"Have raised the best wheat here I ever did."

From a miller:—"All kinds of grain do well here. We can raise better grass-fed beef in Algoma than can be produced in any part of Ontario (or Canada). As for grain I never milled better wheat than I have done in Algoma."

"I came here (St. Joseph's Island) thirteen years ago with hardly any money, and did not know anything about the bush. Now I have fifty acres of cleared land and a good stock of cattle and team of horses."

"When I came (St. Joseph's Island) I had one cow and about \$50 in cash. Now I am worth \$2,000 and I am only here fourteen years."

"I came here four years ago. Had \$700. Now I am worth \$2,000."

"Came here thirteen years ago. I did not have \$5. Now I have three hundred acres of good land, one horse, one yoke of oxen, and a good stock of sheep, cattle and pigs. I think St. Joseph's Island is the place to settle in."

"I came here ten years ago. I only had \$1 when I landed. Now have two hundred acres and am doing well. Algoma is the place for a poor man or a man with some capital."

"There is lots of money in stock-raising in Algoma. From early summer till late in the fall cattle run wild and do well. Hay is a good crop. I often have two to two and a half tons to the acre. The farmers now in Algoma came without money. I came here twelve years ago. I don't think I had \$12 when I landed at Sault Ste. Marie dock."

"I think Algoma the healthiest climate in the world. The winters I consider very healthy for man and stock. The air is exhilarating and dry in winter. In summer it is never very hot, the nights are always cool and very heavy dews as a general thing. Industrious men have always succeeded here, and I can tell you dozens of them. As to fruit I have a good orchard, bearing for some years."

"I have been up here two years, and during that time have seen and raised as fine crops of peas and oats as ever I saw grown in Huron, and for roots of all descriptions it cannot be surpassed in any country."

"It is a good country for farmers."

"Good for roots, apples, grain, hay, stock, and one of the best markets in Ontario."

"I am getting along well for a man of small means. I don't know where I could go to get along better if I was going to farm."

"My expenses left me in debt when I came here with my wife and five children. Now I am well off. Thank God for it. I have a horse and buggy for my own use. Came from Warwickshire, England."

"After having travelled over all the Western States in search of a home, I came here with small means. I am now doing well with a good stock of cattle, sheep and horses of my own, and thank God all paid for. I prefer this place to any other."

"I got a free grant lot thirteen years ago, and then had only one horse, one cow and no money. Now I have three horses, five cows, and a good stock of young cattle, six sheep, three pigs, thirty hens, a mowing machine, waggon, harrow plow, good house, a barn bank 36x60, thirty acres cleared and don't owe any man a dollar."

"I came to St. Joseph six years ago, \$500 in debt. By this spring I have cleared myself of debt and have in addition got stock and cattle around me of my own, and good land of my own. Am doing well, satisfied, and contented."

"I would not want to live in a prairie country. In a prairie country you have to buy any timber you need. Here when one goes on a farm, you find valuable timber of all kinds. The timber is a great protection against the wind also. We have no blizzards in winter or hurricanes in summer, and we have excellent spring water for man and beast. I like the climate, winter and summer and would not want to live anywhere else."

"Industrious men have always succeeded here, even if they had no capital, and I can tell you dozens of them in Algoma. As to fruit, I have a good orchard of apples (some are seedlings grafted by me and some are from nurseries), plums and cherries; they are all thrifty trees. My trees have been bearing for some years."

"I never saw better samples of roots anywhere than I see every fall at the District Fall Show at Sault Ste. Marie."

"A man coming here without money, if he works hard and has a knowledge of the business, can perhaps get on better in Algoma than in other countries where there is no work or employment in the winter months, as there is in Algoma in the woods and mines and on the public works; but the kind of farmers to come here, and the men who would make themselves independently well off in a very short time are tenant farmers and others with a little means or capital and a good practical knowledge of farming or stock-raising; men who understand it as a business and who have a little money to buy good stock and implements and get well started."

"I am satisfied with this place for farming and stock-raising. I grow as good fall wheat and crops of all kinds as in the County of York."

"No place a good man can do better in that I know of."

"Peas fifty-two, oats forty, wheat thirty, buckwheat twenty-five bushels per acre were grown on my place."

"Sixty bushels of oats, twenty wheat, fifty peas to the acre. I grow good apples and fruit. Am doing well."

Toronto Daily News: "Enormous advantages are offered in this new country. The climate is unsurpassed; the country is well watered; there is abundance of timber; the soil is particularly well adapted for the production of roots and hay; fruits of the hardier varieties yield abundantly; and there is, owing to the large lumbering and mining industries, always an unlimited demand for labor, and a home market at high prices for everything a farmer can produce."

Algoma Advocate correspondence: "Timothy and clover now (29th May), measuring from eight to ten inches in height. We can grow root crops and vegetables unequalled in any other part of Ontario, and wheat, peas and oats grow in abundance."

Sault Ste. Marie Express: "There is not a hundred acres that is not watered by living streams, nor is there a settler's farm that is not benefited to the extent of at least \$100 per year by having the broken land lying near for pasturage."

"This is a good country and I advise English tenant farmers to come and buy land and settle in Algoma, and not go out on the bleak prairies and plains where they will not find good water and wood."

Mr. Wm. Allard in *Farm and Fireside*: "For the last seven years I have drawn my wood as I cleared my land to the Sault, and I get \$3 per cord for green four foot wood. If I held it over to summer and could get it in I could get \$4 to \$5 per cord for it. In addition to the settler being able to sell his lumber and cordwood as he clears the land, it is expected that the water power canal at the Canadian Sault will be in operation this year, and then the settlers expect to find a ready sale for their birch and maple in the log for manufacturing purposes. I only started seven years ago. There was not an acre cleared on my farm then. I had so little money when I started that I might be said to have none at all. But I worked hard and knew how to use an axe and to log up and clear land, and perhaps best of all I have a good wife, something every pioneer settler should have if he wants to succeed in Algoma. I now have fifty-five acres cleared and under cultivation, and half of it free from stumps and on which I can use machinery. My average crop has been per acre: Oats thirty-five to forty-

five bushels; spring wheat about twenty bushels; fall wheat twenty-five bushels, peas, always free from worms, thirty or thirty-five bushels; barley about forty bushels; potatoes, 150 to 200 bushels, and Swede turnips 400 to 500 bushels. And then grass and clover grows, as a rule, on the bluff, so the bluff on a man's land makes the best cattle and sheep runs one could get. And for sheep raising I would not want an acre of land than the high rocky bluffs covered with short grasses and clover. The clover is natural to the soil in Algoma, and seems to grow everywhere. If a man wants a 'soft' time he had better not come to Algoma; but if he is hard working and saving and can use an axe, and has any knowledge of farming, or really desires to learn it, and if he can bring with him just enough money to make a start in such a country as I have described, he will find many advantages in New Ontario, rough-looking though it may be. And he can rely on getting plenty of sweet pure water for man and beast from springs and creeks all over the country, and the timber and rocky bluffs he will find will protect him from blizzards and the storms he would meet with on the lonely prairies."

Dominion Indian Lands

From a late report of the Department of Indian affairs, (Ottawa), it is learned that on the 30th June, 1893, the Dominion Government held the following surrendered surveyed lands in the part of Ontario to which this pamphlet relates.

	Acres.
Goulais Bay and Batchawanning Bay, townships of Aweres, Archibald, Dennis, Fisher, Herrick, Havi- land, Kars, Pennefather, Tilley, Tupper, Penwick, Vankoughnet	107,577
Mississauga Reserve	1,173
Thessalon	3,537
Laird	9,729
Macdonald	2,457
Meredith	7,695
Manitoulin District	223,158

The terms of sale of the above lands are 50 cents to \$1.00 per acre, two-fifths cash and balance in three annual instalments with six per cent. interest. Further particulars can be had from W. Van Abbot, Indian Agent, Sault Ste. Marie; B. W. Ross, Indian Agent, Gore Bay; S. Hagun, Bruce Mines.

Character of Algoma and Nipissing Townships.

Here follow particulars as to the soil and characteristics of the different townships mentioned in the foregoing lists, such particulars being taken mainly from the reports of the surveyors who laid out the said townships. The arrangement of the townships is alphabetical.

Baldwin.

A township on the Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific. The land in this township is for sale at \$2 an acre and settlement duties under the Railway Aid Act. The Spanish river runs easterly across the northern part. The surface is broken, but there are many patches of good land. The best parts are in the north and northwest. The southern part has been pretty generally burned over, and is grown up with poplar, birch, etc. The lots are 320 acres.

Balfour.

This township is on the C. P. R. main line, Chelmsford station being on the east border, and the Larchwood station outside its west limits. About one-half of it is good land, namely, that portion lying south of the railway, which is generally clay or sandy loam, with a few narrow ledges of rock. This part is covered with a dense second growth of poplar, birch, balsam and tamarac. North of the third concession, and for two miles west of the eastern boundary, the country is a mass of bare rocks. To the west of this the country is well timbered with balsam, spruce, tamarac, cedar, birch and poplar, with occasionally pine. The Vermillion river is the only stream of any importance. The rock is principally gneiss. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Bonfield.

About 70 per cent. of this township is good agricultural land, the best being between concession lines three and four and the Kaibuskong river, the soil being clay loam. The greater portion of this tract is already taken up. Some very fine tracts of land lie north of Lake Nasbongsing and Kaibuskong river. Lots one to eight in concessions eight to twelve, form a good tract of land, the soil being clay and sandy loam. The northern point lying between Pine lake and the Mattawa river is also a fine tract of land, the soil being principally clay loam. About five thousand acres in the southeast part have been burned; over this a dense growth of poplar, cherry, etc., is growing up. To the north of this, and south of concession lines six and seven, the timber is birch, maple, hemlock and pine. The balance of the township, about two-thirds, has been several times overrun by fire, leaving only a few patches of green woods; the burned portion being covered with poplar, cherry, white birch, etc. The township is well watered by numerous springs and small streams. The Kaibuskong river, and the Mattawan river, forming the north boundary, being the principal streams. The principal lakes are Nasbongsing, Talon, Pine and Turtle lakes. The general face of the country is undulating. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The main line of C. P. R. crosses the township, and the Rutherglen and Callander stations are at its limits.

Bright and Bright Additional.

The greater portion of the township is covered with cedar, pine, tamarac, spruce and balsam, mixed with birch, poplar and hemlock. The pine is very much scattered. In the northeast portion of Bright there is a district which has been burnt over some ten or twelve years ago. In Bright Additional there are several hardwood ridges, very heavily timbered with maple, birch, and hemlock; in the valleys and flats considerable ash and elm. Nearly all of Bright is of clay loam, but rather wet and cold, with the exception of a portion of the burnt district which is more rolling, and consequently drier and more porous. In Bright Additional the soil is not so good, in many places nothing but blowing sand, and in the swamps quicksand bottom. Water is of good quality and abundant. In the lakes the water is clear and good, but soft.

Nearly all the rock in this township is argillaceous. In the northeast portion of Bright there are several ridges of this rock protruding in many places over fifty feet in height, but narrow. The soil between these ridges is of excellent quality. Red granite crops out here and there along the shore of Lake Huron. The greater portion of the township is level and fit for cultivation. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties. The Dayton station of the Sault branch of the C. P. R. is in this township.

Caldwell.

Caldwell is on the northwest shore of Lake Nipissing. Veuve river crosses it in a southeasterly direction, and the Canadian Pacific runs along the valley of the river, the Verner station being within the limits of the township. The soil of this valley is a heavy white clay, in some places coated with sandy loam, and well adapted for agriculture. The south part of the township is rough, rocky and swampy. The northern portion consists of a high range of Laurentian rocks. Lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Calvin.

Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires. With the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains. In its place has sprung up a dense second growth of birch, poplar, cherry, etc. The southern portion of the township and some of the northeast corner are good—the surface is either level or undulating in long and gradual slopes. The soil consists of clay, clay loam, and sandy loam. There is no doubt the fire has consumed much of the richness of the soil, but care and culture will restore it, while the ease with which the land can be cleared must be taken as an important offset. The country is admirably adapted for cattle raising, there being excellent pasturage through the wood, while the beaver meadows are both large and numerous.

The northern portion of this township, especially in the neighborhood of the lakes and Mattawan river, is utterly unfit for settlement, being mountainous, rugged and sterile to a degree; the hillsides are covered with sharp broken boulders, while the more level portions are bald rock. The geological formation is chiefly gneiss and sandstone.

The country is abundantly supplied with springs and small spring creeks. The principal streams are the Pantois creek and Amable du Fond; the former flows into the latter. The Amable is much the larger, and within some miles of its mouth is alternate lake and river. On it are many costly dams and slides. Both these streams are the watery highways by which a large quantity of timber is floated to the Mattawan, thence to the Ottawa. It is estimated that 60 per cent. of Calvin is fitted for agricultural, and much more for grazing purposes. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The main line of the C. P. R. traverses the township, and the Eau Claire station is within its limits.

Coffin and Coffin Additional.

Coffin is much broken by rocks and mountains, rising frequently to 500 feet high. Along the Thessalon river flats of ten to twenty chains wide exist of good land. The timber is principally maple, with some birches, cedars, etc. No pine fit for lumbering. In Coffin additional the country is not so rocky and considerable good land can be found.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Day.

The township has more than a third of its surface covered with lakes, which all afford abundance of good fish. All that portion south of Lake Waquekobing is well adapted for settlement, excepting a narrow strip bordering that lake. No better agricultural land exists than a large portion of this described belt. North of that lake is much broken with rocks. Some five or six lots only, in the north-eastern portion, nor the Mississauga river, are of fair quality. The timber is generally composed principally of maple. Some considerable swamps are met within the southern part of the township.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Dowling.

A township on the Canadian Pacific main line west of Sudbury Junction, and having the Onaping and Larchwood stations within its limits. Windy lake is the only considerable body of water in it. The township is traversed from northeast to southwest by a broken chain of hills, leaving two valleys of fair agricultural land. The soil is general clay and sandy loam, and the prevailing rock formation is clay slate. The timber is mostly white birch, balsam, spruce, tamarac, maple, cedar, ash and ironwood. The Vermilion and Onaping rivers are the chief streams. On the latter there are good powers. On the banks of the both rivers there are extensive tracts of arable land, the soil being a rich alluvial deposit.

The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Ferris.

This township is situated on the east shore of Lake Nipissing. The Wistawasing river drains its southwestern part, and the La Vase the north, both flowing into Lake Nipissing. Lake Nasbonsing occupies the southeast part—a fine sheet of water well stocked with fish and flowing into the Mattawan. The Canadian Pacific crosses it from southeast to northwest, Nasbonsing station being on the north of the lake. The Thorncliffe station, the junction of the Northern and Northwestern extension of the Grand Trunk system is also in this township. To the north of and around Nasbonsing lake, the land is good clay loam. Some very fine clay flats exist in the southern part of the township. Toward Trout lake a rocky area comes in. The portion between Trout lake and Nipissing is an alternation of rocky ridges and tamarac swamps, with occasional patches of good land with mixed timber.

The lots are 100 acres. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Galbraith and Haughton.

These townships are situated about twelve miles back from Thessalon, on the north shore of Lake Huron. The surveyors' reports state that these township present the appearance of low detached foothills to ranges of mountains, in some places gradually falling off into valleys covered with mixed timbers and a good deep soil, in other places abruptly falling off into valleys of hardwood timber with some very good deep, black soil, but most covered with boulders, again in other places rising perpendicularly into rocky ridges. In Haughton, one prairie table land of several thousand acres of red, sandy loam covered with balsam, spruce, etc., presents the appearance of having at one time been covered by a lake.

The township is surveyed into lots of 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Gladstone.

Situated immediately north of Bright on the north shore of Lake Huron. The prevailing timber is pine (which has been cut over), maple (chiefly bird's eye), black birch (very large, frequently forty inches across the butt), balsam, spruce, cedar and tamarac, alder and willow; swales frequent. Soil red, sandy loam, underlaid by heavy blue clay. Formation, Huronian and Laurentian.

The township is abundantly watered, the Mississauga river traversing it from southeast to northwest. It is a fine river, varying in width from three to ten chains. The banks are high, in places immense cliffs, at others an exposure of the soil takes place. Here and there along the south and west banks, good flats of arable land are to be found. The river in places is very deep, at others quite shallow, with numerous sandy shoals. It is very rapid over all the shallow points. Quite a number of falls are within the limits of this township. The principal lakes are Pakawamengan or Mud lake, Wahquekobing or Basswood lake, and Clear lake, all well stocked with fish. A great many small springs are found. Very rich mineral deposits have been found in this township. About fifty per cent. of the township is fit for settlement.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at twenty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Hallam.

The Spanish river traverses this township from east to west, and is navigable to the first falls in the township of Merritt. The Webbwood station of the Canadian Pacific, Sault branch, is in the township. There are no large lakes, and the only other considerable streams are the La Cloche and Birch creek. South of the Spanish river the land is covered with a thick second growth, following an extensive burn. South of the river there is a considerable quantity of pine, birch, maple, balsam, cedar, etc. The soil in the valleys is sandy, or sandy loam or clay. On the north side there is a fair percentage of arable land with a clay subsoil. About twenty per cent. of the total area is fit for agriculture.

The formation is Huronian. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Hardy.

Situated on the southwestern shore of Lake Nipissing. From fifty to seventy-five per cent. of this township consists of good rich clay. Rocky ridges abound, but the land between them is of extraordinary richness. The timber is large and healthy black birch, maple, spruce, hemlock, balsam and cedar, with a considerable quantity of large pine intermingled. Along the eastern boundary from concession three to concession ten, and extending westward to about lot ten, there is a tract of land which is generally hilly and rough, but through here the pine is tolerably plenty and generally of a good quality. Memesogamasing lake is a beautiful sheet of water, and the largest lake in the township. Pike, pickerel, bass and grey trout are very plentiful. The formation is gneiss and a kind of clay slate.

The township is laid out in 100 acre lots. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Himsworth.

This township is situated on the southeast shore of Lake Nipissing, and is drained partly by branches of the South river, on which many good mill sites are to be had. There are no large lakes in it. The northern portion has been burnt over, the remainder is timbered with maple, birch, beech, oak, ironwood, basswood, hemlock, cherry, and in the river valleys cedar, balsam and spruce. Along the rivers, good clay soil exists. On the uplands it is mostly sandy loam. In this township large tracts of good land are to be found. The only swamp of any extent is one in the third and fourth concessions, timbered with spruce and balsam.

One-half of the land in Himsworth is regarded as fit for settlement. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Johnson, Tarbutt and Tarbutt Additional.

Many excellent agricultural lots are to be found in these townships, but there are no extensive sections of unbroken good land. In the northern part of Johnson where the surface is very broken and hilly, yet the soil is rich as is evidenced by the remarkable growth of the crops raised by the settlers. North of Bear lake in Tarbutt Additional, and in the southern part of Tarbutt, the land is more level, and a considerable area is found without rock or hills, besides there are here a number of excellent lots which would be very easily cleared and prepared for cultivation, as the most of the timber has been destroyed years ago, and grass has now taken its place. This is more particularly the case along the west side of these two townships. The lots in these townships are 320 acres. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties. The Sault branch of the C. P. R. crosses the township, and the Stobie station is in Johnson, and the Tarbutt station in Tarbutt.

Korah.

Korah is on the north shore of the St. Mary river, immediately west of Sault Ste. Marie. Such an enormous volume of traffic now passes this point by water and by rail that an excellent local market for all kinds of produce can be confidently looked for.

Korah contains (with the little township of Awenge) 25,000 acres. The quality of the land is generally good. For a mile back from the river it is marshy, then gradually rising becomes dry, and is principally a good strong clay loam for two miles back. The surface then becomes rolling, the soil a fairly sandy loam, and the timber chiefly maple for three miles further. From thence to the northerly limit of the township the land is more or less broken with rocky ridges. The timber is principally hardwood. The lots are 320 acres. The Canadian Pacific Sault branch crosses the river at Sault Ste. Marie, close by. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Kirkwood

Is situated immediately north of Thessalon. About sixty-five per cent. of this township is fit for settlement. Soil, good sandy loam. It contains very fair hardwood timber, consisting of maple, birch, pine and hemlock. The formation is Huronian. The largest lake is Waquekobing on the east boundary. A branch of the Thessalon river flows through the centre of the township. Lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Laurier.

This township is hilly, many of the elevations being of from two to three hundred feet, timbered principally with hardwood. Several thousand acres in the southeast were burnt over about twenty years ago. Spruce and cedar swamps of considerable extent exist along the west boundary and in the northwestern quarter. The South river is the principal stream. The soil is sandy loam; the rock gneiss. The timber is principally mixed hardwood, spruce, balsam and pine.

The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The township is situated on the Northern and Northwestern Extension Railway.

Lefroy.

Lefroy is on the north shore of Lake Huron immediately east of Bruce Mines. The Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific crosses it along the front. The land along the front is rocky and broken, but about a mile or two back there is first-class soil capable of producing any kind of crop. Toward the eastern limit the land is broken and hilly and the soil light. The northeastern portion is generally good rolling land, broken occasionally by a ridge of rock. The timber is mixed. In this portion also are rich alluvial flats on the banks of the Thessalon river. Towards the northwestern portion the land becomes level. There are several good powers on the river. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Lorne.

The south half of this township is open for sale under the Railway Aid Act at \$2 an acre and settlement duties. It is on the line of the proposed Manitoulin and Little Current Railway. The Canadian Pacific Sault branch crosses the northwest corner, and the station of Nelson is located therein. The surface of the township is much broken with hills and lakes. The Spanish river and the Vermilion river traverse it. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

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McKim.

This township has been almost wholly burnt over. The greater part of it is rough and rugged, being cut up by high hills with swamps intervening. There are, however, some good flats along the line of the C. P. Railway, and a few patches of good sandy loam are scattered elsewhere. Most of the good land in the township is in the vicinity of the important town of Sudbury, which is the point of junction of the Canadian Pacific main line and the branch to Sault Ste. Marie. This township is very rich in minerals. Extensive mines of copper, nickel, etc., are already being worked. The good local market thus provided will render the arable lands in this neighborhood very valuable.

The lots are of 320 acres each. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Mattawan.

Mattawan—meaning "The Forks"—is situated at the junction of the Mattawa and Ottawa rivers. It is bounded northerly by the Ottawa and on the south by the Mattawa. It contains an area of 49,593 acres. The Canadian Pacific station, Mattawa, is at the village of that name on the south side of the river. The trade of the place being good and capable of very great increase, there is naturally a good local market for all produce, and this renders the adjacent land, though of poor quality, of greater value than it would otherwise be. The township consists of the usual rocky ridges of the Laurentian formation, alternating with valleys in which the land is capable of cultivation and sometimes rich. The timber is mixed hardwood and pine, the best of the latter having been cut long ago. The lots are of 160 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

May.

The Spanish river flows through this township southwesterly, LaCloche westerly, and Sable river from the northwest to the Spanish river. There are a few small lakes on the north side of the Spanish river. A large proportion of the area of this township has been burnt over. The surface is broken with hills which rise occasionally to 200 feet. In the valleys, the soil is frequently good sandy loam and sometimes clay. In the southwest part there is a block of about 1,000 acres of good land entirely devoid of timber, which has been swept away by frequent fires. About 30 per cent. of the township is fit for cultivation. The lots are 320 acres each.

The Canadian Pacific Sault branch crosses the township near the line of the Spanish river, and the Massey station is on the line between May and Salter. Land in May is for sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Merrill.

This township is open for sale under the Railway Aid Act at \$2 per acre and settlement duties, it being on the line of the Manitoulin and North Shore Railway. The Canadian Pacific Sault branch goes through the centre of it.

This is a poor township, the land fit for agricultural purposes being only in two or three places in sufficient quantity to make it worth cultivation. The soil in the northerly part is a coarse red sand and most of it has been burnt over. What good soil there is is to be found in the south part of the township, but this

is intersected with many rocky ridges and numerous lakes. The timber is principally birch, tamarac, cedar, spruce and an occasional pine. The rocks are trap and granite.

The Canadian Pacific Sault Branch runs through the northwest corner of the township.

Nairn.

The southern half of this township is for sale under the Railway Aid Act at \$2 per acre and settlement duties. The Sault Branch of the Canadian Pacific intersects the township and has a station in it, and will also be served by the projected Manitoulin and North Shore line. The Spanish and Vermilion rivers cross it from northeast and the latter expands into a considerable lake called Wabigizig. The part traversed by the C. P. R. is an extensive tract of level sandy land, lightly timbered with spruce and pine. The remainder of the township is broken and rocky.

Nipissing.

The southeastern portion in the vicinity of the South river is level, interspersed with a few swamps and ridges of sandy loam. The southwestern portion is broken by rocks. The central and westerly parts are high table-land timbered chiefly with fine hardwood. In the northwest corner, in cons. 11 and 12, the land is poor and broken. Some years since a heavy fire swept over the entire country on the north side of the South river. There is a belt of choice land along the valley of Beatty's creek. There are beaver meadows of considerable extent, which yield a heavy growth of excellent wild hay, most of it fine *blue joint* grass.

The soil is chiefly a sandy loam on the elevated portions. Where not rocky, it is frequently a dark rich loam of the finest quality. In the more level portions—bottom land—it is mostly a clay loam of a whitish texture. On the north side of South river, after leaving its banks, the soil is principally sandy or sandy gravel. This township on the whole is well timbered. In the central and westerly portions there are large tracts of fine hardwood, consisting of very fine maple, birch, beech and ironwood, some basswood, with a mixture of hemlock, where the land becomes broken. Birch is the prevailing timber, and abounds in every section of the township, on high as well as low land. It is generally large, and frequently found from three to four feet in diameter. The township is well watered. The South river traverses a considerable part of it, and is from one to four chains in width. It is navigable from its mouth on Lake Nipissing to the first chute on lot 13, 11th con. There are several fine waterpowers on the South river, also on the North creek. The rocks are principally gneiss. About 70 per cent. of the township is adapted for agriculture.

The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Papineau.

This township is well watered; on the north boundary by the Mattawan river. A range of rocky hills borders the river. Elsewhere the township presents no well-defined ridges except those forming the watershed of Boom creek and Little Pantor's creek. The only lake of any size is Sturgeon lake. Nearly

all the township has been burnt over, and a thick growth of poplar and birch has come in. The soil generally is sandy loam, with tracks of whitish clay loam which is very productive.

The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The Mattawa station of the Canadian Pacific is in the northeast corner of this township.

Parke.

Parke is a small township south of Prince, and abutting on Lake Superior and St. Mary's River. It contains 6,664 acres. The surveyor reports it to be nearly all swamp, cedar and tamarac, with sand ridges running through it. The south portion of the township is nearly all marsh. The beach is sandy and the water is shallow except at Pointe aux Pins, where the channel runs close to shore. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Parkinson.

The general character of this township is rocky and mountainous, broken up into an almost endless variety of bluffs. Near the south boundary there are a few lots of good land. There is a good deal of hardwood, principally maple. The only stream of consequence is the Little White river. On the left bank there are a few miles of open prairie, but the soil is a very light sand.

About 10 per cent. of this township is fit for settlement. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Patterson.

The township is on the south shore of Lake Nipissing. It is intersected northwesterly by a chain of lakes, communicating with French river. The land in the south half of the township is above average, a large portion of it being very good, presenting a deep fertile clay soil, occasionally mixed with loam; it rests generally on a subsoil of clay and coarse gravel. There is a considerable proportion of swamp land containing deep alluvial soil, which, in time, will, by clearing, draining, etc., become highly productive.

The prevailing upland timber is a mixed growth of maple, birch and hemlock, with a fair scattering of pine in places. The north half of the township, as a whole, is not so well adapted for farming, although it contains several blocks of good land. A rather extensive area of this part has been burnt over. Scattered over this half are isolated tracts of low lands, or "balsam flats," yielding a fat loamy soil, which, from the character of the timber, can be readily and easily cleared and cultivated. The lakes in the township are very beautiful and useful. Restoul lake, especially, is exceedingly fine. The water is clear and deep, and is abundantly stocked with maskinonge, bass, pickerel and white fish.

The rock formation is Laurentian. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Patton.

This is a township immediately north of Thompson, which is on the north shore of Lake Huron. The soil and lumber in this township are varied. In the north are several lakes. The township is traversed by the Blind river, which is navigable for canoes from Lake Huron to Canoe lake. The river presents a

splendid spectacle before it enters Cataract lake, falling in a mass of snow-white foam from a height of nearly fifty feet in an inclined plane of about 200 feet in length, forming, with the grim rocks and dark forest, such a picture as would delight an artist. All the lakes on the course of this river teem with fish. In the neighborhood of Marsh river and Denman lake there is some good land. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Plummer and Plummer Additional.

The country north of Ottetail lake and east of Rock lake is rocky, as a general thing. The prevailing lumber is maple, birch and hemlock. There is good hardwood on the west and southwest sides of Rock lake. The land on both sides of the Thessalon river is good; the timber is principally softwood, cedar, ash, etc. About two-thirds of the land lying between the south boundary of Plummer and Lake Huron is fit for settlement. The lands along both sides of the Great Northern road, from the foot of Ottetail lake to Garden river, are good. The Bruce Mines station of the Sault branch of the C. P. R. is in Plummer Additional.

The lots are 320 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Prince.

Prince is situated on Lake Superior, at the entrance to St. Mary river. Most of the land in this township is good. The Gros Cap range of granite runs through it from east to west. South thereof, the land is swampy and broken. North, there is good loamy soil and heavy hardwood timber, birch and maple, intersected by cedar and black ash swamps. It is well watered with small creeks and springs. These lots are 320 acres. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Rayside.

Rayside is on the main line of the Canadian Pacific, a little west of Sudbury Junction. The Rayside station is in its limits; Chelmsford station is just outside its western limits. The township is generally level, with only a few rocky ridges here and there, mostly in the southeast and northwest corners. The south half of the township is rather low, and in some places needs surface drainage. The soil in the 1st concession, which borders on White Water lake, is very rich, and the part of the township traversed by the Canadian Pacific is quite fit for cultivation. The 6th and part of the 5th concessions are rocky. A branch of the Spanish river runs through the township. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Rose.

A township about six miles northeast of Bruce Mines, on the north shore of Lake Huron. The southwestern portion is generally good rolling land, timber mixed, and hardwood generally of large growth. The soil is principally clay bottom and sandy loam. The southeastern portion is generally level with mixed timber; the soil light and sandy. In the centre portion are several tracts of low and level land; timber, tamarac and spruce; soil, light and sandy, marshy in some places. On both eastern and western limits the land is broken, rocky ridges are frequent. The two northern ranges are rough and broken, with bare rock on the hills, and good but shallow soils in the valleys. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

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St. Joseph's Island.

St. Joseph's Island is situated to the northwest of Lake Huron, at the entrance to St. Mary's river, the connecting link with Lake Superior, about thirty miles by water from Sault Ste. Marie. It is about twenty miles by twelve to fourteen, and contains 86,000 acres. Fully two-thirds of the island are fit for settlement, the remainder being swamps. The soil is mostly red sandy loam or clay and sand mixed with mould. The surface is stony in many parts, but this does not prevent the soil from being very productive. Nearly all crops of the temperate zone succeed well here. The interior of the island is a large hill rising abruptly on the west, north and east sides to a height of 400 or 500 feet. The top of the hill is a slightly undulating tableland of 5,000 acres of excellent land, timbered with fine hardwood. The island is well watered with creeks and small springs. Along the shores there are a number of small swamps, and in the interior there are large swampy tracts, some of which, however, can be easily drained, and will then be fine land. The island is densely wooded, principally with maple. A great deal of the maple is of the bird's-eye or curly variety. There are also beech, birch, hemlock, cedar, spruce, basswood and elm; in the swamps, balsam and tamarac. The snow is usually off early in April, and the lake freezes over about the middle of December. The climate is not very severe, the lowest range of the thermometer being 25° in February, the average for the coldest month being from 10° above to 10° below. The fisheries on and around the island are excellent. The rock is principally limestone of the Hudson River formation. It has been used for a number of years past as building stone and for burning. There is also a white sandstone in some places, and here and there a mass of granite. The lots are 100 acres. Being in the main steamship channel, the means of access are excellent. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Salter.

This township is similar in character to Victoria, which adjoins it on the west. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Shedden.

This township has been nearly all burnt over, but there are a few belts where the original bush stands. These are mostly in the easterly portion, and northeasterly parts; in the low parts the soil is a whitish clay, or clay loam, and on the higher levels dark or sandy loam. The Serpent river traverses this township. The Canadian Pacific, Sault branch, runs along the front, and the Spanish River station is in the township. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Springer.

Springer is situated on the north shore of Lake Nipissing. McLeod's bay, an arm of the lake, runs back into the heart of the township. At the head of the bay the Canadian Pacific main line strikes the water, and the Cache Bay station is located there. The township is traversed by the Sturgeon river, and the Sturgeon Falls station is at the crossing thereof by the railway. The part southeast of the river is generally sandy loam, nearly all of it fit for cultivation, and timbered with small cedar, hemlock, birch and pine. That part west of the Sturgeon river is heavy clay loam, and timbered with maple, black and white birch, pine, cedar, balsam and hemlock. About 80 per cent. of this section is fit

for cultivation. The north part of the township, being concessions four, five and six, is more broken and rocky, and about forty percent. of it is fit for cultivation. The river is navigable for about four miles back, and that and the bay make the township very easy of access throughout. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Thompson.

A township on the north shore of Lake Huron, traversed a couple of miles back from the shore by the Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific, the Dean Lake station of which is in the township. The Mississagua river crosses the township from the northwest, navigable throughout the township for four-foot vessels in the summer. The rivers teems with fish: sturgeon of large size abound. Much of the land along the river is good, timbered with maple, black birch, ironwood, red oak and hemlock. The swamps are generally tamarac. The lots along the lake have poor light soil, and between this and the river the land is not first-class. Along the blind river in the north of the township there is good land, also at the Lake of the Mountain. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Victoria.

The surface of this township is broken by rocky ridges, and ten lakes are embraced within its area. It contains much good arable land, but it was burnt over about twenty years ago. The area of arable land is estimated at one quarter of the whole. The township is crossed by the Sault branch of the C. P. R., and the Watford station is in its limits.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Wells.

The Mississagua river flows through the township, averaging from 200 to 250 feet in width, and generally shallow. There are large tracks of hardwood, and along the river are some excellent flats of good land. The southeast corner is light and gravelly. In the southwest corner there is a rocky, barren track of 200 acres. North of this rocky belt there is a hardwood track of some 12,000 acres of excellent sandy loam, but stony. Towards the north the timber is mixed. A most remarkable feature in this section of the township is a large open plain or prairie, embracing about 2,000 acres. On this plain there are occasional clumps of spruce, pitch pine and poplar, but in places it is like an open field. The soil on this plain is generally gravelly, but in some places it is a very good yellow loam. To the north of this plain the mountain ranges occur through which the Mississagua cleaves its course, and these ranges form a very marked feature in the northern portion of the township. There are some very high hills in this township. The rocks are of Huronian slate and quartzite and Laurentian gneiss.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 20 cents an acre and settlement duties.

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Widdifield.

Land in this township is for sale at \$2 per acre and settlement duties under the Railway Aid Act. The greater part of this township is hardwood land, having a fair loamy soil. The northwesterly part is very level, with numerous swamps, and the easterly portion is hilly. The soil generally is a rich loam, but is in many places sandy and stony. The northeasterly part is high and rocky. The timber is maple, black birch, ironwood, basswood, balsam, hemlock, beech, cedar and tamarac, with a fair scattering of pine. The township is well watered. Trout lake, forming the southern boundary, is a fine sheet of clear water, famous for fish, and with many islands. The north shore of the lake is hilly. North Bay, an important station of the C. P. R., and the junction with the Northern and Northwestern Division of the Grand Trunk, is situated in this township on the shore of Lake Nipissing. The rock is granite. The lots are 320 acres. About two-thirds of the entire township are fit for settlement.

On Lake Nipissing.

In the immediate vicinity of North Bay, on Lake Nipissing, particularly in the township of Widdifield, there is a considerable area of arable land, much of which, convenient to the railway, is being taken up by squatters. A little farther west several townships along the railway are comprised in the agency of Mr. J. D. Cockburn of Sturgeon Falls, the lands in which are open for sale to actual settlers at fifty cents an acre. The land in this neighborhood is good, and a fine farming district surrounds the village of Sturgeon Falls. All kinds of grain grow and do well, and I was informed by Father Ferron, parish priest, that both Indian corn and tobacco come to perfection. Father Ferron's garden is as fine and well-ordered a garden as one will find anywhere, and in it may be seen all manner of flowers and vegetables. Potatoes do excellently well, and I was told that at the agricultural exhibition held at Sturgeon Falls last autumn the display of farm products of nearly every kind was very fine. Wheat is little grown, not because it will not ripen, but because there is no mill in the district to grind it, and because of the very low price it brings. This is the case throughout the whole of this northern Ontario, and indeed, the cheapness of the fine Manitoba flour with which the district is universally supplied renders the task of raising wheat at fifty cents a bushel an unnecessary as well as an unprofitable one.

Around the Sudbury Mines.

The lumber industry is here reinforced by mining to create a market for farm products and everything grown by the settlers finds quick sale at good prices. Hay was selling at \$12 to \$15 a ton at the date of my visit, potatoes seventy-five cents a bag and oats as high as fifty and fifty-five cents a bushel. The price of oats was expected to fall when the new crop was reaped, but I was informed it was seldom less than thirty-five cents per bushel. Hay grows naturally, that is to say, wherever the seed is thrown by chance on the ground, as along the "cadge" roads, over which supplies for the lumber camps are teamed, it takes root, thrives and extends itself. The townships of Rayside and Balfour are almost completely settled, mostly by French-Canadians, and there are some farms in an excellent state of cultivation. A considerable percentage of the land in Balfour is taken up, and in Waters the lands are also being quickly settled upon, English-speaking farmers being probably in the majority.

Thessalon and Bruce Mines.

The settlements in the neighborhood of Thessalon and Bruce Mines are of longer standing than any in the districts already mentioned, and in consequence the country presents a more civilized and agreeable appearance. The soil in general is good and fertile, and a failure of crops is almost unknown. Hay, oats, peas and potatoes are here, as elsewhere, the principal crops. Well cleared farms and comfortable houses are to be seen on every side. Towards the front the best lands have been taken up, but there is yet an almost unlimited area of equally good land lying untouched further back from the railway. There is also a good local market for agricultural produce at higher prices than can be had in older Ontario, and in the winter time ready money can be earned in the lumber shanties if the work on the farm is not pressing. The settlement here presents nearly every feature of that in Huron or Bruce twenty-five or thirty years ago, the English-speaking people largely preponderating.

Temagami Lake, Nipissing District.

There is very little agricultural land on the shores of this lake, and it is unlikely that the district comprising it will be opened for settlement. Nevertheless this work would be incomplete without some mention of Temagami lake, which some explorers have declared to be, from a picturesque point of view, the finest lake in America. It is situated on the height of land or watershed between the waters that flow into Lake Huron and those that go to the Ottawa. It has two outlets, one flowing north to the Montreal river, thence into the Ottawa; the other at the south end by the Sturgeon and French rivers into Georgian bay. It formerly had another outlet on the east toward the Ottawa river, and yet another on the west to Lake Huron, and if anything should occur to raise the waters of the lake a few feet these two outlets would again flow.

Temagami lake lies northwesterly about forty-five miles from North Bay station on the C. P. R. It is about thirty miles long and thirty in breadth. Its waters are translucent as crystal. Its shores in most places bold and precipitous, with many bays and arms running off for miles in all directions. Its surface is studded with most beautiful islands to the number of thirteen hundred, or as some estimate, sixteen hundred. Its waters are filled with all kinds of game fish. Altogether with its elevation, bracing air and romantic scenery, it appears to have the makings of an ideal summer resort in it. On Bear Island, a large island about the centre of the lake, is a Hudson Bay post, which has been established some sixty or seventy years. The rocks around its shores are felsites, holding pebbles of syenite, quartzites, clay slates massive diorites and crystalline schists. The timber around its shores is small, following a burn, and consists of poplar, jack pine, small red pine and white birch. The shores are nearly all rocky.

The country between Temagami lake and North bay is, says Mr. J. C. Bailey, chief engineer of the Toronto and James Bay railway, rolling land with a good depth of soil and very little rock. "We could see the soil along the streams, and in nearly every case there was about three feet of thick black loam with a clay subsoil. We could tell we were in a good country by the timber."

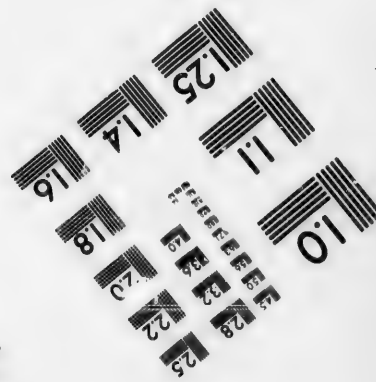
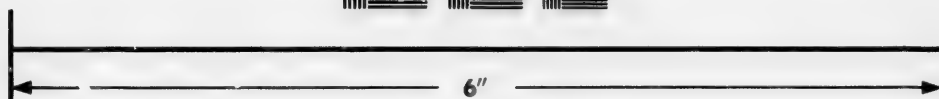
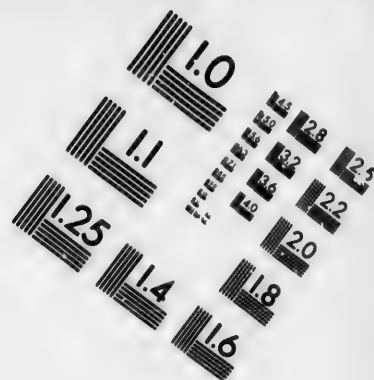
Between North Bay and Temiscaming.

The Provincial Government has cut out a road on the way to Lake Temiscaming from North Bay for a distance of twenty miles. This road passes through the field, thence into Merrick, and on the line between that township and Mullock through Stewart when, owing to lakes intervening, a course of 90° is taken and followed to the waters of the Metabetchouan. Thence a course north was followed till the road struck Lake Temiscaming opposite the Hudson Bay post. This road passes through a very fair country until the Otter Tail river is passed, whence to the north the country is very rough and broken. Says Mr. J. C. Bailey, before mentioned: "Coming down by the Government road from Lake Temiscaming to North Bay the land is excellent, but five miles south of the Montreal river it is very rough. After that, however, there was a reach of seventy or eighty miles of splendid land. The timber in that region is mainly white pine, black and yellow birch, and there is a large extent of spruce and tamarac. The largest birch trees I saw were from three to three and a half feet through. They grow to a height of seventy or eighty feet. Out of some of these trees you could get on an average three good logs of say twelve feet in length. The tamarac is sometimes found 24 inches in diameter, but a good average would be 15 or 20 inches. The smaller size, 10 or 12 inches through, is used for ties. There are also patches of good young second growth poplar growing on land that had been burnt. We also found lots of maple, the trees running from 10 to 20 inches through. We saw considerable white ash growing up to 50 or 60 feet and about 12 inches in diameter, and it commanded admiration. We noticed some whitewood, too, such as formerly grew in the Lake Erie counties; it grows from 24 to 30 inches in diameter and is very handsome. I am satisfied that as regards soil and climate that country is well suited for agricultural purposes. The country is full of moose. They are there by thousands. They used to tread the roads so heavily that it made travelling by snowshoes very difficult for us. We often saw them playing on the ice and sometimes came across their stamping grounds. We also tracked the caribou, and the Indians say they are plenty of them. There are red deer too, and we often came across wolves. There is an abundance of fur-bearing animals, such as the beaver, marten, fox, mink, and others."

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PART 2.

THE TEMISCAMING SETTLEMENT.

NORTH-EASTERN ONTARIO.

Commencing at Mattawa and going northward up the Ottawa, the course of the river is through a rough and precipitous country of gneiss and syenite rocks. In the first 14 miles of the journey there are four rapids, called the Demicharge, the Caves, the Erables and the Mountain rapids. The total fall is 28 feet. Then commences a stretch of about 20 miles of deep water navigation, through what is called Seven League Lake. Soundings show that the water here is sometimes 400 feet deep. At the head of Seven League Lake, a formidable rapid, the Long Sault commences. Through it the river makes a long and violent leap of seven and a quarter miles, during which it descends fifty-three and a half feet.

At the head of the Long Sault commences Lake Temiscaming ("deep waters"—it is said to be several hundred feet deep in some parts). The lower end of the lake is distant from North Bay station about forty miles northeastwardly. This lake is 68 miles long, has an area of about 113 square miles, and is 612 feet above sea level. The shores of its southern parts are bold and rocky, and the tributaries in that part have rapid descents, thus furnishing a great number of water powers which will be invaluable for saw milling and pulp grinding purposes. The difference between high water mark in the end of May and the lowest, which occurs in October, averages twelve and a half feet. The lake forms a boundary between Ontario and Quebec.

Near the head of the lake the character of the country entirely changes. The bluffs and precipices fade out, a very fine quality of limestone, similar in composition to the Niagara limestone sets in. The land becomes level and rich. Three rivers flow in here, the Blanche from the north, a river with a width of about 400 feet and a depth of 15 to 20 feet, and flowing through so level a land that there is hardly any perceptible current. Otter creek discharging into it is of a similar character.

The Blanche is navigable at low water for vessels drawing about three feet for a distance of 24 miles. Then a fall of about ten feet occurs, followed by another stretch of smooth deep water for six or seven miles. At high water the river is navigable for 30 miles, forming with Lake Temiscaming the longest continuous stretch of navigation on the Ottawa waters.

The Quinze, so called because it has fifteen rapids, enters from the east. It is a much larger stream than the others, and is, in fact, the Ottawa river under an *alias*. The lake receives several other large tributaries—the Montreal river, Metabetchouan and Wahbe's creek on the west, and the Kippewa on the east. The average date of the entire disappearance of ice during the last 30 years has been from the 10th to the 14th of May. In connection, it may be mentioned that at Montreal since 1870 the earliest opening of navigation has been on April 8th, and the latest on May 5th.

As has been said, the country around the head of Lake Temiscaming is of a totally different character geologically and otherwise from the lower parts of

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the lake. The land at the head consists of a level tract of many thousands of acres of the richest calcareous clay, some lighter and some heavier, with a plentiful covering or admixture of vegetable mould. The soil is described by experts as equal in fertility and staying quality to any in the world. Such land will grow anything, and will stand cropping for year after year without showing signs of exhaustion. The timber is small, owing to the whole district having been swept by fire about sixty years ago. The labor of clearing is therefore light. First-class local markets are furnished by the lumber camps, working in the country tributary to this lake. The supply of pulp wood is practically inexhaustible. A great industry in the making of that article is sure to be soon established. Cedar grows to a large size here. Perfectly straight, sound poles of 40 to 50 feet, or even longer, can be obtained in quantities. Of railway ties and fence posts the supply is ample. In short, there will be for many years to come plenty of forest and allied industries to bring money and work into the country, while the settler is subduing the land to its proper and more profitable agricultural purposes.

Mr. C. C. Farr, of Haileybury (township of Bucke), who, from his experience of twenty years, has become an enthusiastic Temiscamingian, gives the following as a list of vegetables, cereals and fruits that succeed to perfection in his neighborhood:

Vegetables: Beans, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, celery, cucumbers, corn, lettuce, melons, onions, parsnips, peas, pumpkins, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, squash, tomatoes, tobacco, turnips. *Cereals:* Barley, oats, peas, wheat. *Fruits:* Apples, plums, grapes, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, strawberries.

Mr. Farr also says:

THE SEASONS.

Seeding time commences about the first week in May, and ends so far as oats are concerned, about the 4th of June, though oats have been sown as late as the 20th of June, and have done fairly well. Potatoes can be planted as late as the 20th of June, and it does not profit much to put them in before the 24th of May. Corn, cucumbers and melons can be sown about that date. The snow begins to melt about the 12th of April, and is all gone by the first week in May, sometimes earlier. Navigation opens not later than the 10th of May. Haying commences about the 14th of July, harvest the 15th of August. The fall is open, and the large lake is seldom frozen before the second week in December. The steamers ran last fall until the 12th of December. . . . Temiscaming is less afflicted by summer frosts than were many parts of Southern Ontario when they were first open for settlement.

Mr. Farr recommends incoming settlers to bring their household effects, but not their live stock, as the latter can be procured on the spot cheaper than it can be taken up and kept.

A sufficient number of mineral finds have been made in the neighborhood of Lake Temiscaming to justify the hope that this will prove a very rich section. All experience goes to prove that where granite and limestone formations meet, mineral ores are abundant and rich. So far, argentiferous galena, nickel, gold, iron, copper, mica and asbestos have been found in quantities that would pay handsomely for working.

Analysis of Temiscaming Clay or Undersoil.

The following is the result of the analysis of two specimens of the clay undersoil of the Temiscaming district, made in October, 1894, by Prof. Shuttleworth, Professor of Chemistry at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph:

	1	2	Average.
Moisture	1.700	1.710	1.705
Insoluble matter	74.660	74.880	74.770
Organic	3.650	3.690	3.670
Soluble silica	0.312	0.255	0.283
Alumina	5.820	5.619	5.719
Peroxide of iron	4.000	4.000	4.000
Phosphoric acid	0.292	0.203	0.247
Sulphuric acid	0.192	0.213	0.202
Br. Ox. of manganese	0.583	0.544	0.563
Lime	0.977	1.732	0.854
Magnesia	2.180	1.850	2.010
Potash	1.950	.....	1.950
Soda	0.331	.....	0.331
Undetermined .....	.....	.....	3.666
			100.

Nitrogen in cl: $\gamma = 0.160$ per cent.

The above analysis shows that the clay is very rich in phosphoric acid and potash; and, for a subsoil, is unusually rich in nitrogen. Such a soil might be cropped for many years before its richness was seriously trenched upon.

Means of Access.

The easiest way to the Temiscaming settlement at present is from the Mattawa station of the Canadian Pacific Railway, up the Ottawa by steamers running on the water stretches. Freight is carried on light tramways round the different rapids. A line of railway has been built from Mattawa along the east bank of the river some thirty miles, so as to overcome all these rapids, and land the passenger at the foot of Lake Temiscaming. This line will doubtless in due time be pushed northward to the shores of Hudson's bay. A more direct means of access to Temiscaming from Western Ontario will be furnished by the Toronto and James' Bay Railway, before spoken of, when it is built.

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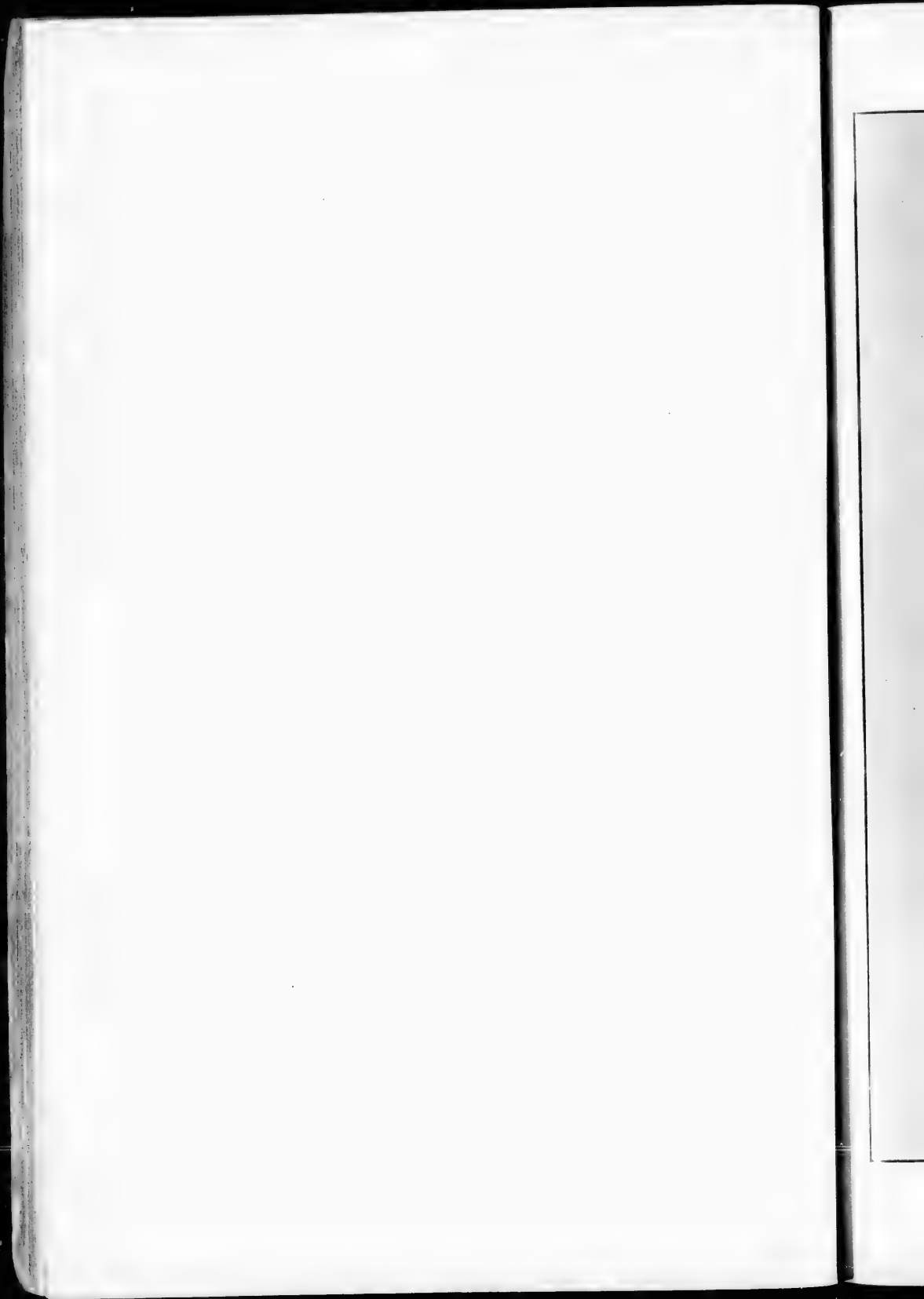
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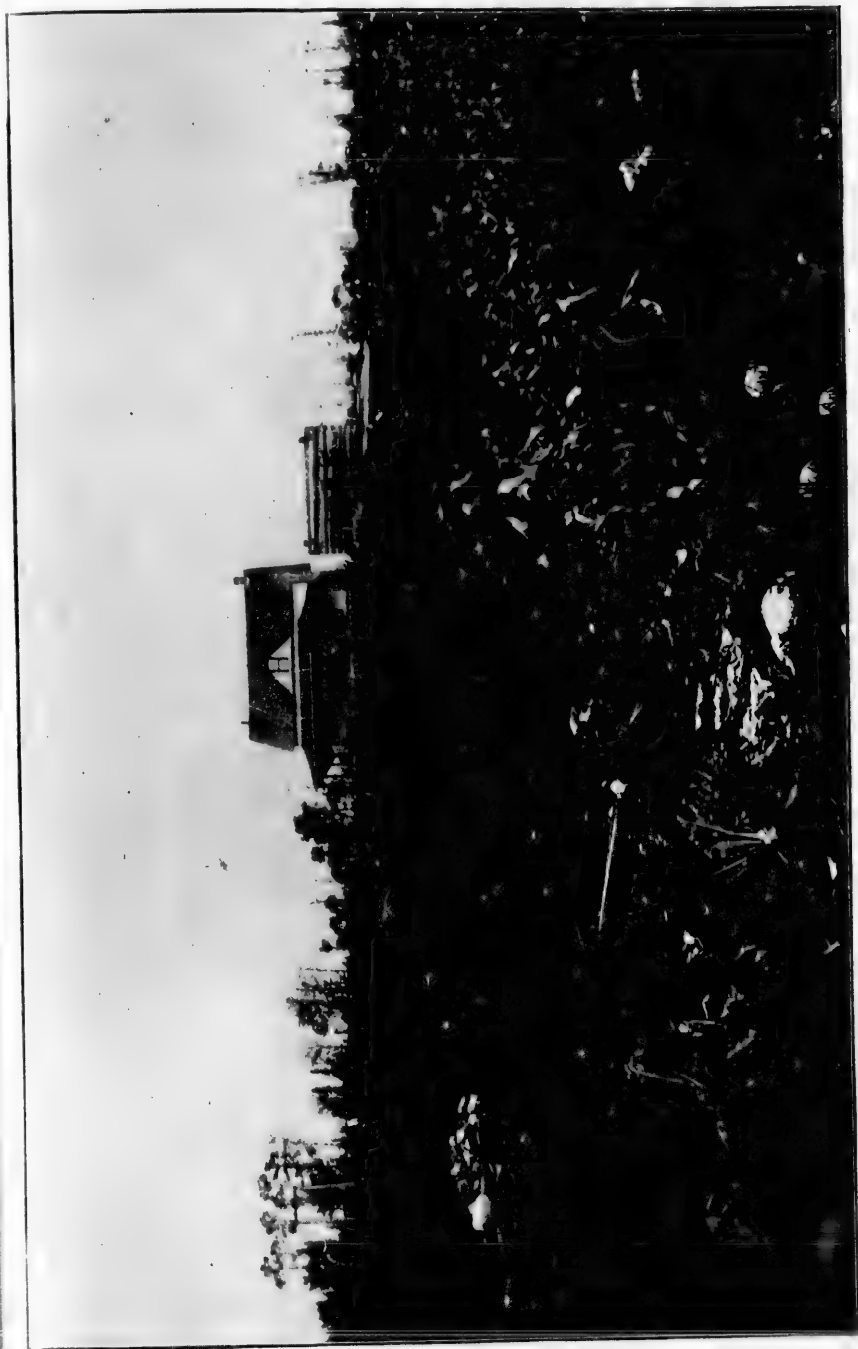
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STEAMERS OF THE LUMSDEN LINE ON LAKE TEMISCAMING.





HOUSE OF C. C. FARR, HAILEYBURY, TOWNSHIP OF BUCKE, NORTH-WEST SHORE OF LAKE TEMISCAMING, 400 ACRES, 80 ACRES CLEARED (1894).

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Temiscaming Lands.

At the head of Lake Temiscaming about 30 townships have been surveyed and laid out as follows:

Townships Surveyed.

Lorraine,	Kerns,	Ingram,	Marter,
Bucke,	Henwood,	Evanturel,	Pecaud,
Hudson,	Bryce,	Dack,	Marquis,
Dymond,	Beauchamp,	Robillard,	Blair,
Harris,	Armstrong,	Sharp,	
Casey,	Hilliard,	Savard,	
Harley,	Brethour,	Chamberlain,	

Open for Settlement.

Bucke,	Hudson,	Harris,
Dymond,	Casey,	

Agent: JOHN ARMSTRONG, Liskeard P. O.

Terms of Purchase.

The land in the five last-named townships is open to purchase by *bona fide* settlers at the price of fifty cents per acre, one-half cash and the balance in two yearly instalments with interest, subject to the following conditions:

Actual residence upon the land purchased for four years from the date of purchase, clearing and having under cultivation and crop at least ten acres for every hundred acres, and building a habitable house at least sixteen feet by twenty feet, such condition to be fulfilled before issue of patent; also subject to the following regulations respecting pine timber: All pines trees growing or being upon the said land so sold shall be considered as reserved from such sale, and such lands shall be subject to any timber license covering or including such land in force at the time of such sale, or granted or renewed within four years from the date of such sale, or granted or renewed prior to the filing of the proof of the completion of the settlement duties in the Department of Crown Lands, and such trees may be cut and removed from such land under the authority of any such timber licenses, while lawfully in force; but the purchaser at such sale, or those claiming under him, may cut and use such trees as may be necessary for the purpose of building and fencing on the land so purchased, and may also cut and dispose of all trees required to be removed in actually clearing said land for cultivation; but no pine trees, except for the necessary building and fencing as aforesaid, shall be cut beyond the limit of such actual clearing, before the issuing of the patent for such lands, and all pine trees so cut and disposed of (except for the necessary building and fencing as aforesaid), shall be subject to the payment of the same dues as are at the time payable by the holders of licenses to cut timber or sawlogs. Provided, however, that this order shall not apply to any land to be sold as mining land under "The General Mining Act of 1869," and amendments thereto.

Bucke.

The following are extracts from the reports of the surveyors:

The greater part of this township is adapted for agricultural purposes—being a good clay soil, comparatively free of stone or rock. Roads could easily be made to nearly any lot. It is well watered with beautiful spring creeks. There are no large streams, the main creeks being Little Wahbe's creek and Mill creek. The Little Wahbe is about thirty links wide. There are only two small lakes in the township. The timber generally along Lake Temiscaming, on concessions two, three and four, is cedar of excellent quality; the balance of the township is timbered principally with poplar, whitewood, tamarac, spruce and balsam, with in places a thick maple undergrowth. No indications of the presence of any minerals were observed. The geological formation is principally Huronian.

Hudson.

This township is divided by a series of rocky ridges, running northwesterly from the southeast corner. The ridges rise to a height of from 150 to 200 feet, and often afford very fine views. Excellent Huronian slate is found in vast quantities in this hilly region, and the broken fragments are strewn over all the adjacent valleys. Another remarkable feature is the presence of limestone and freestone, bearing a striking resemblance to the Niagara formation, and apparently the origin of the extensive white clay deposits of this and adjoining townships. In the southwestern portion of the township are several beautiful lakes, with an abundant supply of fish. Here the soil is a sandy loam, and the country is attractive as a point for new settlements.

North of the ridges, the soil is white clay, the surface generally level, and the general appearance of the country rather flat and swampy. The timbers are not large, being a second growth, probably about seventy-five years old. The remains of an older and heavier forest are often seen, and in a few localities the fires have left it untouched. The most valuable timber is the cypress or pitch pine, which grows thickly and is smooth and tall, and averages from six to eighteen inches.

Harris.

With the exception of the low lands at the mouth of the Blanche river and the lowest portions of the lands on the creek emptying into the head of the lake about two miles northwest of the mouth of the Blanche river, the township of Harris is composed of first-class farming lands, being timbered with spruce, tamarac, birch, balsam, excellent cedar, a great many of the latter being three feet in diameter and of very fine quality, some hard maple and red and white pine. Wahbe's point, which runs out into the lake between Wahbe's bay and the bay at the mouth of the Blanche river, is very high and steep on the east side, one hundred and seventy-five feet in some places, and falls gradually to the west, where the hill on the east side of Wahbe's bay is not more than thirty feet in average height. The soil is clay loam and a clay sub-soil, Huronian rock underlying, sand loam overlying. Clay sub soil is found in the northwest portion. Numerous springs are found along the shores of the lake, and some creeks run westward into Wahbe's bay.

The township is admirably adapted for agriculture and timbered with such woods as render the lands easily cleared; and although in southern Ontario land on which tamarac, spruce, balsam and cedar grow is not considered of much value in this district the reverse holds good. The lakes and rivers abound with fish, and the forests are full of game: at present this portion of the country is a sportsman's paradise.

Dymond.

This township is admirably adapted to agricultural purposes, the soil being chiefly good clay, and in places sandy loam with clay sub-soil. Fully ninety per cent. of the land in the whole township is of excellent quality. All that part lying to the northeast of Wahbe's creek, with the exception of one stony ridge, may be considered superior farming land—it being fairly level. The portion of the township lying southwest of Wahbe's creek is somewhat rolling, with a wet tamarac and spruce swamp in the northwest portion thereof, and a few small stony tracts in the vicinity of the south boundary. With these two exceptions all this part may also be considered excellent for farming purposes.

Wahbe's creek, which enters the township near the northwest angle, and crossing it in a southeasterly direction, enters into Lake Temiscaming, has banks varying from ten to twenty feet in height, thus affording a fine channel for carrying off the water from the numerous smaller streams which drain the township. Chief among its tributaries is a stream of about equal volume, though not more than one-third its width, entering Wahbe's creek about three miles from the lake. This stream has a good water power on lot number four, concession three. The timber throughout this township is small, and consists principally of spruce, tamarac, poplar, whitewood, cedar and balsam, with some black birch, white oak, black ash, elm and soft maple. The northerly portion was burnt over many years ago, and has now very little merchantable timber. A dense growth of underbrush covers nearly the whole township.

Casey.

The south boundary of this township is about three miles up the Blanche river from its mouth at the head of Lake Temiscaming. The river traverses it in a southeasterly direction, entering at the northwest angle and leaving about three-quarters of a mile west of the southeast angle.

With the exception of a few hundred acres of high land in the southeasterly portion of the township, the land is a level flat, mostly spruce and tamarac swamp, in some places very wet and in others nearly dry; but all excellent agricultural land, none that could not be easily cleared and drained. In fact, it seems that most of the swamps are caused by the extra height of the land on either side of the present drainage outlets—the Blanche river and its tributaries—into which the whole township could be easily drained.

The subsoil is clay with good clay loam and black muck overlying. The hills in the first and second concessions are very stony, with a slightly sandy soil, the top of the hill in the second concession being almost bare rock. The township is well adapted for agricultural pursuits, and with the facilities afforded by the Blanche river, one of easy access to intending settlers.

Notes of a Tour in the North.

Extracts from letter in the *Globe* from Mr. T. W. Gibson, of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, on the Temiscaming settlement:

This district offers the nearest parallel to the famous "Queen's Bush" of western Ontario forty or fifty years ago which the province presents to-day, with two points of difference in favor of Temiscaming. One of these is that the timber, which in the "Queen's Bush" was mostly heavy hardwood and had to be chopped down, cut up and burned with infinite labor, is here small and light, being mostly poplar, balsam, spruce, birch, balsam of Gilead and tamarac, and is consequently cleared with much less labor and expense. The other is that while for years the pioneers of the "Queen's Bush" were many miles from the sound of a railway whistle, in Temiscaming a railway precedes the settlers, who can thus take in their goods under modern conditions, and not on their backs or in an ox sleigh as the first inhabitants of the Huron tract were obliged to do. To anyone who remembers the rush for the lands in the "Queen's Bush" when they were opened for sale, it may seem strange why so little interest is being taken by our Ontario farmers and farmers' sons in the new tract. Unless civilization has sapped the energies of the race, it surely requires only that the merits of this region should be made known to ensure the setting in towards it of the tide of migration. It is beginning to draw settlers from the Province of Quebec, whose people, more awake to the advantages of the country, or less averse to the roughnesses of pioneer life, are coming in increasing numbers, bringing with them their language and their customs.

Temiscaming as seen in the Fall of 1894.

Mr. T. A. Gregg, of Toronto, visited the Temiscaming settlement in October, 1894, and gave the following enthusiastic description of the country in the *Empire*.

"I am satisfied from what I saw and heard during my visit to Ontario's New North that as soon as it becomes generally known that there are in that region, less than 300 miles north of Toronto, in a straight line, hundreds of thousands of acres of land, of as fine a quality as any in Canada, which settlers can secure for fifty cents an acre, there will be a rush thither such as this province has not seen in years. I do not mean to say that this new land will offer any attraction or advantage to those who own productive farms in southern Ontario, and are comfortably situated. To them the change would not be profitable, for it would mean beginning life again. But to the sons of farmers; to those who know how to farm, but lack land; to those of small means who would get a home easily and that in a district where their holding must become more valuable as the land is taken up; and to those from abroad who look for land nearer to the business centres of the east than Manitoba and the western territories, the Temiscaming should be worth inquiring into.

"There is nothing to excite interest on the Ontario side until the Montreal river is reached. Here on a point of land is a cluster of substantial looking farm houses, the holdings of several industrious Swedes, who settled there some

years ago. The land hereabouts is of good quality and fair crops are secured. The Montreal river rises in the northern part of the district of Algoma and in places is a broad, rapid river. After many turnings and a turbulent career it comes in almost a straight line from the northwest, and just before it loses itself in Lake Temiscaming it is crowded into a gorge 16 feet wide and 140 feet deep, a sight well worth seeing. The settlers here seem well to do. They are comfortably housed and there is an air of prosperity about the place which speaks of thrift. These settlers are not in the newly surveyed district, but several miles south of the township of Lorraine, the most southerly of the new townships. This is an important point on the lake. The Bronsons, who own limits all through this district, have a farm a short distance up the Montreal river and their depots in the neighborhood are many. All their supplies pass in by the Montreal river road.

"The visitor will not be impressed with Haileybury at the first glance, because there isn't enough of it yet to excite remark. But it is in the middle of the good land, and is certain to become a centre of traffic in the district. The land slopes down to the water: a rich brownish-black loam, in which they grow enormous potatoes, cabbages and other roots worthy to be prize-winners anywhere. Half way up the slope between the water and the rocky ridge which makes the background of Haileybury is the Farr homestead, to the left the neat and comfortably looking dwelling of Mr. Lawlor to the right a house built by a settler from Orillia, while not far distant is the new home of the Rev. D. A. Johnston, who is enthusiastic about the country, and hopes some day in the near future to administer to a large parish there; with praiseworthy energy he is losing no time in preparing for his congregation. A church has recently been constructed.

"A considerable area in the townships of Bucke, Dymond and Harris has been taken up. Few know that there is surveyed land running from lower Temiscaming, 50 miles north to the height of land, and 30 miles across at its widest part. Twenty-five townships are plotted, and six have their boundaries defined. Nearly all the water front sections from Haileybury around by Wahbe's bay to the mouth of the Blanche river have been taken up, but I think that the land back from the lake is to be preferred, as it is not exposed to the overflow when the lake rises in the spring beyond ordinary bounds, as is often the case. There is no lack of water in any part, and small lakes abound in all directions, yet there is little rock to be met with and in some sections none whatever. In the 500,000 acres which lie there waiting the settler to make them productive, there is little bad land. Men who have been over it have found it uniform in quality, with little variation from Temiscaming to the top of the southern watershed. It has been probed with irons to a considerable depth without rock being found and been tested in many places, with the result that the subsoil of calcareous clay was found to carry in some instances as much as five feet of black and grey loam, composed principally of vegetable mould, the accumulation of centuries of decay. Like the prairie soil, this must be most productive and will not require stimulant in the shape of manure for many years to come.

"The clay plain of the upper Temiscaming is a peculiar feature of this region. To the south is a large area of Laurentian rock, but this disappears

above the Montreal river, and level country with fine soil takes its place. The clay formation reaches over the height of land to Lake Abbittibi, 275 feet higher than the Temiscaming plateau.

"The land is lightly timbered. On some of it there is no pine whatever, the principal growth being white spruce, cedar, yellow birch, the sugar maple, swamp maple and white oak, but the most abundant tree is the aspen. The growth is light in most places, and clearing can be done easily. 'I would rather clear five acres up here,' said a locater from North Simcoe to me, 'than one acre down below.' He had been over the land, and it suited him. He had secured a quarter section on Wahbe's creek and was filled with the merits of his purchase.

"Having the land, what will it produce? is the question. Father Thureau at Baie des Peres, told me that he thought they could produce anything there which could be produced along the St. Lawrence. If this can be done at the Baie, where the soil is not of such fine quality as that on the Ontario side, the settlers in Bucke, Dymond and Harris should be able to do better. The Ontario townships should produce wheat, a crop of the first importance in a region where flour and even bread are freighted up from below. That the soil is fit is evident, and I was assured by authorities on both sides of the lake, who would have no object in deceiving me, that summer frosts rarely affected cereal crops, though vegetable crops occasionally suffered. But the frosts are not a yearly visitation, and sometimes are so light as to do little damage. What effect the breaking up of the land will have upon the frosts remains to be seen.

"Cultivation of the land is said to have brought about favorable climatic changes in Manitoba and the Northwest, and why not here. It should, too, be a good country for stock. There is abundance of hay, and with a soil which has been known to yield phenomenal roots, such as beets, turnips and potatoes, there should be no difficulty in carrying cattle through the winter, which is no longer than it is with us, although Temiscaming is about five degrees of latitude further north. As to fruits, hardy apples, pears and plums, should do well if the right stock is secured. Oats have given satisfactory yields, and so have barley and peas. These are raised on the Quebec side and find ready sale at the lumbering depots. But it strikes me that if the settler who takes up land on the Ontario side can produce enough for the support of himself and his family for the first few years he should be content. His market will be growing all the time, and when he has a surplus to sell he will not lack customers at profitable prices. A dollar a bushel is an easy price in that district where all supplies are dear. West of the lake are vast lumber areas as yet untouched. The Booths, Bronsons and McLaughlins have limits in there, and other firms have tracts known only to their timber cruiser. The axemen and loggers are employed elsewhere, but in time they will be turned into these forests. There are many thousands of them, and while they work the Temiscaming farms will help to feed them. And this market the Temiscaming farms will have for years. This is also a mineral region, undeveloped as yet, but carrying valuable deposits of useful metals and minerals, which will be found profitable to work as soon as the country has railway facilities. So when the timber is gone the mining depots, which are sure to spring up, will look for their supplies to the surrounding country.

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PART 3.

THE WABIGOON SETTLEMENT

AND GOVERNMENT PIONEER FARM, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

In the extreme western section of Ontario, about 217 miles west of Port Arthur, 80 miles east of Rat Portage, and 215 east of Winnipeg, is situated what Hon. John Dryden, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, has appropriately called his "Pioneer Farm." A pioneer it certainly is, for the region was, until two or three years ago, an entirely unsettled one, being a part of that territory until recently in dispute between Ontario and the Dominion. The farm itself is located immediately at the crossing of the Wabigoon river by the C. P. R., and a full view may be had of it from the railway train as it passes. It is here that the first steps were taken, in the autumn of 1894, by the Ontario Government to open up for settlement a section of country that hitherto was a complete wilderness. Not an acre had then been cleared, not a furrow struck, nor any seed sown; to-day crops have been grown and gathered, a comfortable house and suitable barn erected, and about forty acres cleared and plowed.

Surely if he who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before deserves the thanks of his fellow man, this effort on the part of the Ontario Government to test in some measure the unknown capabilities of Ontario's newly acquired inheritance is to be commended. But was it necessary, it may be asked that the Government should assume this obligation? Yes, it was both desirable and necessary, and for the reason that no one appeared to believe in the suitability of this locality for agricultural pursuits, and no one was willing to hazard the experiment for himself. All such enterprises in a new country are at first experiments, but particularly was this the case in the present instance, where so much doubt and uncertainty surrounded the undertaking. As, however, a start had to be made, the Government considered that the circumstances fully justified them in commencing operations, holding that the funds belonging to the people as a whole, rather than to the individual, might wisely be employed to this end. This it was that determined the Minister of Agriculture to undertake the part of the pioneer, and by going into the district just as the ordinary settler would do, endeavor to ascertain by a practical test whether he could not with confidence direct the attention of others to the region referred to.

Accordingly, the task was begun. Late in the autumn of 1894 a quantity of land was underbushed. It was plowed the following spring and a small crop put in, consisting of wheat, barley, oats, grass and a few roots. In the early summer a house was built of the timber of the district, not an expensive structure, but a warm, comfortable dwelling of neat and substantial appearance, such as a settler

of moderate means might desire to erect. Later, a basement barn with the necessary stable accommodation was added, and the first small shipment of live stock forwarded. The first crop of grain, small as it necessarily was, now stored away in the granary, may truly be asserted to be a very encouraging one, taking into consideration that it was sown on the first plowing, and that the season was unusually wet in that locality. The wheat was well filled and hard, barley plump, oats heavy, while clover and timothy made enormous growth.

The Country.

Many people are incredulous when told that good land, sufficient in extent to comprise a good sized country or more, exists in this region. And perhaps after miles and miles of tedious journeying, through the desolate rocky waste that lies extended along the northern shore of Lake Superior, like the bleached skeleton of a once fertile country, their incredulity is not so remarkable. "There is nothing here but rock," they assert, "we must go on to Manitoba's fertile plains." The farther west they can locate, the better some of them seem to like it, and many are content to live lives of solitude and isolation, far from markets and far from railroad communication, while regions near at hand possessing these advantages, and others as well, are passed over. They too often lose sight of the fact that there is a distance limit from one's market beyond which the raising of agricultural products ceases to be profitable.

Now, the first question the interested reader will naturally ask is: What is the Wabigoon country like? What are its advantages?

The casual traveller, not especially interested perhaps in the products of the soil, may not remark from the car window that the region differs very materially from the country he has recently been passing through. The light growth of poplar, spruce, jack pine and tamarac interspersed with blackened stumps, presents nothing new. But if he be a close observer, he will certainly see that the railroad cuttings, instead of running through sandy, gravelly soil, or the solid rock as heretofore, now pass through a clay deposit, indicating that the formation of the country has undergone a complete change. Then let him leave the train, and, wading through the underbrush, climb to the top of the nearest elevation; let him look to the north, the south and the east and the west, and he will see a vast extent of unbroken, rolling country, dotted here and there with clumps of small timber with a light growth of underbrush between, so light, in fact, that hundreds of acres lie there almost ready for the plow. But more than this, there is not a rock, not a stone even, to be seen anywhere.

The Soil.

Generally speaking, the soil consists of a strong clay of greyish color, changing in lower lying sections to a clay loam, or occasionally even lighter soil. It is wonderfully free from stone, and pulverizes readily when turned to the sun and air. Referring to the quality of the land, the surveyor says:—

"The soil is mainly composed of clay and clay loam of excellent quality. The Wabigoon river, a fine stream about two chains in width, flows in a devious course for about thirteen miles through the township which is well drained and watered by numerous small creeks and springs, in addition to which there are three lakes. Fully seventy-five per cent. of the whole township is well adapted for agricultural purposes and the greater part being covered only by open brush the necessary clearing would be easily accomplished. Patches of open prairie of considerable extent also occur in many places, thus further reducing the usual

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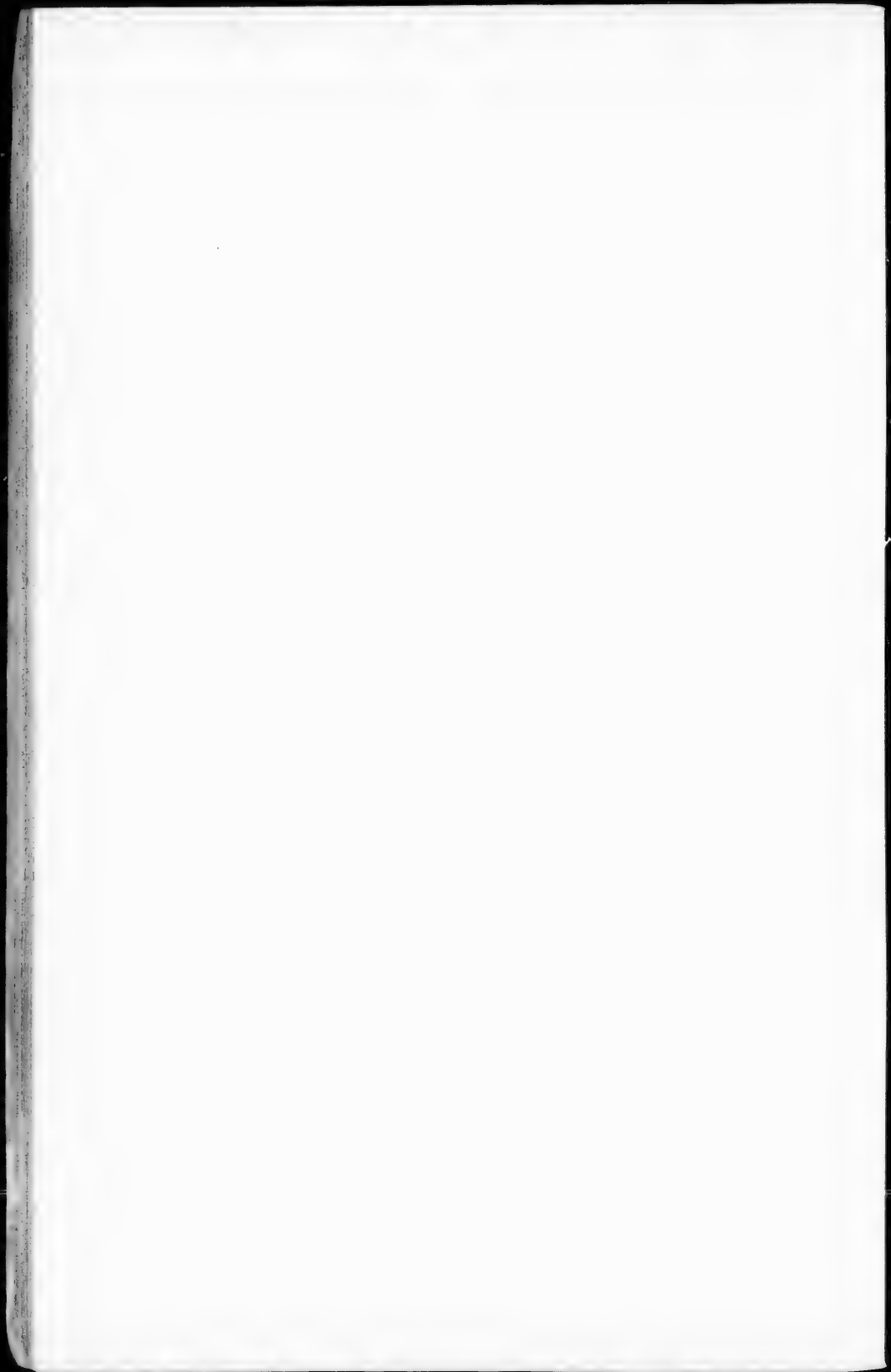
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GOVERNMENT PIONEER FARM BUILDINGS AT WABIGOON, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.



FALLS ON THE WABIGOON RIVER.





NATURAL STATE OF THE COUNTRY ON PIONEER FARM AT WABIGOON.



SCENE ON ELBOW LAKE, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

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labors of the future pioneers in preparing farms for cultivation. Owing to the comparatively level character of the surface of the land and the absence of heavy timber, the roads in the township would generally be easily constructed.

The township of Van Horne is thus described in the surveyor's report: "This township is in general rolling, with very few hills of over 100 feet high; frequent fires have overrun so that all the timber of value has been destroyed, except two small patches of spruce and tamarac in the south-west quarter, leaving parts of the township completely bare, but the larger portion is covered by a thick growth of small poplar, jack pine and birch. The soil consists of a fine white or grey clay, with areas of sandy loam. This clay and loam is mostly in the northern and central parts and occupy about one-third of the township. They will, I think, make valuable farms, easy to make ready for the plough, as the ground is almost completely clear of timber. The balance of the township consists chiefly of rolling hills of rock with swamps intervening.

The township is well watered, several large bays of Lake Wabigoon reach well into the centre and the River Wabigoon runs north through the fourth, fifth and sixth concessions, besides there are several small streams of good water. On the River Wabigoon, near the crossing of the Canadian Pacific Railway, there is an excellent mill site with a fall of about fifteen feet. This is less than a quarter of a mile south from the Pioneer Farm.

The Water Supply.

The country is well watered and the water is pure and good. Wabigoon lake, a beautiful sheet of water about thirty miles long by five or six miles wide, lies at this point not quite a mile south of the railroad track. It is dotted with picturesque islands, its shores are well wooded, and it contains a plentiful supply of fish, including whitefish, maskinonge, herring, pike and pickerel. From it the Wabigoon river flows north and west, a broad, navigable stream with abundant water-power at intervals.

The Timber Resources.

A glance at the burned logs and stumps which everywhere meet the eye, convinces the observer that the country was once well wooded. But in all probability fierce fires have swept across it on several occasions, leaving little but a few clumps of dead timber, which now constitute a valuable supply of fuel for the settler. The country has not all been burnt over, however, at least not recently. Away in the distance to the northeast, east and south there may be seen a thick forest growth, but the timber is small and easily cleared.

Looking to the future needs of the settler, the Ontario Government has thoughtfully reserved a pinery in the vicinity, where a plentiful supply of building material may be obtained, the logs being conveyed by water a distance of some five or six miles. Cedar for fence posts, etc., may be had within easy reach.

The Climate.

The Wabigoon country is undoubtedly as wholesome a one as could be found in the whole of Ontario, both for man and beast. No malaria or fever exists, nor is the water alkaline, to cause dysentery and other troubles. The summers are moderately warm, and the autumn months, with their fine bracing atmosphere and bright sunlight, are simply perfection. In winter the cold is steady, but the snowfall is usually light. For 1895 plowing was commenced at the farm on May 2nd, although it might have been started a trifle earlier. The plow practically stopped running on November 5th.

A Dairying Section.

But it is as a dairying section rather than a grain-growing country that the Department desires to bring it to the attention of the intending settler. It is not anticipated that he could well compete with the western prairie farmer in the production of wheat, whereas for dairying and stock raising the conditions are all in his favor. Clover and grasses grow most prolifically, the former being indigenous and producing two crops a year. Fine natural pasture is supplied in the prairie grass and wild peas, while cattle thrive on the wild hay to be obtained in all the creek bottoms. Moreover, the scrub growth also found there protects cattle from flies in the summer, and the valleys themselves form a very desirable shelter in stormy weather.

Access to Markets.

Next comes the important question of markets. One of the foremost advantages of this region is that a good market is brought to the very door of the settler by the ready means that exist of railroad and water communication. Rat Portage, a growing milling town, with a population of about 4,000, including the suburbs of Norman and Keewatin, not being in an agricultural district, has to obtain nearly all its food supplies from Manitoba, and offers a good market for dairy products, fresh meat, etc. It has been ascertained also that the C. P. R. dining cars are prepared to take a considerable quantity of produce of this kind.

Then it should be remembered that between the line of the C. P. R. and the American border, there lies a region rich in deposits of gold, iron and other minerals, and of considerable forest wealth, the possibilities of which are only beginning to be made known, and it is thought that the future will witness here the upbuilding of extensive mining and lumbering industries. Along the Seine river and Manitou and Rainy lakes, many mining claims have been taken up and are being developed, and already the lumbering industry is extensive, a large quantity of railway ties, cordwood, etc., being taken out every winter. At the present time no less than 300 men and forty teams are engaged in the vicinity of the farm, thus affording not only a ready market, but a means of employment for the settler during the winter months.

Now, as a glance at the accompanying map will show, Wabigoon river and lake drain the region immediately to the south, and afford the only outlet for the timber found there, besides forming a direct route for taking in supplies. At the present time these supplies are passing the very door of the Government farm, and the question that presents itself is whether they shall continue to be provided by Manitoba, or whether the limited quantity of arable land in the vicinity shall be utilized for that purpose. Thus it will be seen that the agricultural development of the Wabigoon region has a direct bearing on the progress and development of the whole district, and that its importance can hardly be over-estimated.

With these facts in view, the value of the water power afforded by the river at the railway crossing will be readily appreciated. A portion of the fall, which has a drop of fully fifteen feet, is shown in the accompanying photograph. This, with Wabigoon lake as a reservoir, furnishes an inexhaustible supply of power which will prove of great value for manufacturing purposes. It is at this point that a town site has been reserved by the Government.

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Information for Settlers.

Four townships have been surveyed and opened for location in connection with the Wabigoon district, viz.: Wainwright, Van Horne, Eton and Rugby. The lands in the two first named townships have all been allocated, and, in order to meet the ever-increasing demand for locations, the townships of Eton and Rugby were surveyed during the summer of 1896, and, in March of 1897, were duly opened for location by Order in Council. At the time of writing, 20,000 acres have been purchased, or applied for, chiefly in Wainwright and Van Horne, and this area represents about eighty-two applicants who will with their families become actual settlers. Judging from the inquiries that continue to be made, there will doubtless be a large influx of settlers into the district during the spring and summer of 1897.

About 2,000 acres have been applied for as mineral lands in Van Horne, and within seven miles of Dryden eighty gold claims have been taken up, chiefly in the southwestern part of Van Horne township, and on the western arm of lake Wabigoon. Five shafts are being sunk at the present time.

For the convenience of settlers, eight and a half miles of colonization road have been built by the Government, and the settlers themselves have built an additional fifteen miles. The bridge across the river at Dryden will be completed during the spring of 1897. Westward from the bridge, a road will be constructed by the Government to open up the township of Eton.

The Townships of Eton and Rugby.

Mr. T. B. Speight, O.L.S., speaks as follows of the township of Eton in his report dated September 19, 1896: "This township is bounded on the east by the township of Wainwright, on the north by the township of Rugby, and on the south and west by lands of the Crown, at present unsurveyed. With the exception of a few rocky elevations in concessions V and VI, nearly the whole surface is undulating and rolling, thus affording good facilities for drainage. The soil is mainly composed of clay and clay loam of excellent quality, and there is scarcely a lot which does not contain enough good land to make a fair sized farm. Fully 75 per cent. of the total area is well adapted for farm purposes. The township is well watered by the Wabigoon, Pelican, Gull and Beaver rivers with their numerous tributaries. The Wabigoon is a fine stream about two chains in width, with an average depth of from six to eight feet. Being free from rapids, it affords uninterrupted navigation down to the confluence with Eagle river. With the exception of a few clumps, scattered here and there, no timber of any commercial value remains, but in many places sufficient second growth tamarac, spruce, Jack pine and poplar, for the purposes of the settler can be obtained. Fire having overrun the district in 1894, the second growth timber has nearly all been killed, and the greater part of concessions V. and VI., lying north of Wabigoon river, has been almost entirely denuded, thereby rendering the clearing of that part a comparatively easy task.

No settlers have as yet located in this township, but all the arable land in the adjoining township of Wainwright having been taken up within the past year, it is probable that "Eton" will soon be the seat of a thriving settlement. The Canadian Pacific Railway, which crosses the south part of the township, from side to side, affords easy access, C. P. station being located on lot 4 in

concession 1. Large game is very scarce, but rabbits, partridges and prairie fowl are numerous. Blueberries, raspberries and wild currants were found in great abundance."

Mr. A. H. Macdougall, C.L.S., thus describes the township of Rugby: "The south and southeast portion of the township is in general gently rolling with a few hills of rock: in the north and northwest it is in the greater part very rough, consisting chiefly of high hills of rock, with muskeg and small patches of clay. The soil consists of a fine white clay covering most of the southeast portion. This is almost clear of timber and in most places can be easily made ready for the plow.

The township is well watered; there are six lakes, chiefly in the northern part: the largest, Pelican lake, occupies about four miles long in the northeast corner, and extends a long way out of the township: the outlet of this lake is Pelican river, a sluggish stream about one chain wide by three feet deep with clay banks by which the water is much discolored, finally emptying into Wabigoon river. There is no timber of any value in the township, the south part has been completely burnt and the rest is covered by small dead second growth Jack pine, poplar, spruce and in general from one to five inches thick, very much decayed, so that a large number are blown down by every storm: the only exception to this is in a few swamps and muskegs, covered by green second growth and scrub. Game was rather plentiful, a number of moose was seen and large numbers of partridges and pin tailed grouse."

The Town Plot of Dryden.

Attached is the map of the town site just south of the Government farm. A siding has been built by the Canadian Pacific Railway at this point, to which the railway company requested to be allowed to give the name of "Dryden," and the town will be called by the same name. It is expected that a station will be built at an early day.

The town plot is very advantageously situated on level land and adjacent to a fine water power suitable for manufacturing purposes. More than forty town lots have been sold, and eighteen buildings erected, with others to follow. There are already two stores, a post-office, a blacksmith shop and a good boarding house in the place. A small saw and shingle mill is in operation within the limits of the town site. It is likely that other industries will follow. The price of town lots is \$10, except for corner lots and lots on Queen street, where the price is \$15. The north half of the lot adjoining the town on the east has been reserved for town purposes should it be needed. The town of Dryden should not be confused with that of "Wabigoon," situated about twelve miles to the east at the other end of lake Wabigoon.

Dryden not only has the bulk of the agricultural land in the Wabigoon country at the back of it, but is likely to become to some extent a mining and manufacturing centre. Water power privileges are now being sought for the purpose of running a stamp-mill for gold ores; also for flour and saw mills.

A steam tug is necessary at Dryden, both for towing logs for building purposes from across lake Wabigoon and also for taking supplies to the mining camps. Probably this want will soon be met as it is understood that four or five tugs will ply upon the lake from various points during the coming summer. This will place the settlers around Dryden in direct communication by water with the Manitou mining region, the distance to be travelled being about forty miles.

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Mining Prospects.

The lake Manitou and lake Wabigoon gold fields are of exceeding promise. About 100 men are now employed there in mining operations and during the coming season the number may be trebled. The river between Dryden and lake Wabigoon—a distance of about a mile—is perfectly navigable.

The statement that an excellent market for dairy produce, fresh meat and vegetables would be found in the mining and lumber camps is being amply verified. During the winter of 1896-7 about 300,000 railway ties were taken out along the line and there was also a lumber camp near Manitou lake. Axe men and miners were in demand, as were men and teams.

Men to work on mining properties are in demand all through the Rainy river district. Building operations and road and bridge construction at Dryden will afford work for a limited number of settlers.

The Class of Settlers Wanted.

There are in Ontario to-day many capable and industrious young men, the sons of farmers, whose parents are unable to purchase farms for them; or it may be they have a little capital at their disposal, yet find it impossible in the older settled districts to procure land cheap enough to suit their pockets, and see but little prospect of obtaining farms and homes of their own. Others there are who, owing to the depressed state of agriculture, find it well nigh impossible on rented farms to make ends meet. Good, solid Ontario farmers and farmers' sons, with a little capital at their command, and anxious to secure unencumbered homes for themselves—these are the settlers the Department would like to see located at Wabigoon. Settlers totally without means are bound to meet obstacles well-nigh impossible to overcome. Such are not only helpless themselves, but stand in the way of the progress and prosperity of the district. A few intelligent settlers of the class indicated, if located on the land and prosperous, as they would soon surely be, would induce others to follow their example, and result in a very short time in a thriving settlement being established.

How Land May be Secured.

The Government, being anxious to reserve the land for the bona fide settler, and to prevent it falling into the hands of speculators, where it might remain unproductive to the detriment of settlement, have decided upon the following conditions: That the amount of land each applicant may purchase shall not exceed 160 acres, but if a head of a family, he is allowed to increase his purchase to 240 acres; that the price paid shall be fifty cents per acre, one-fourth down, and the balance in three equal annual instalments with interest at six per cent. The settler will be required to clear and put under cultivation at least ten per cent. of the land purchased, and to erect a habitable house of not less than 16x20 feet. When this has been done, and the purchaser has resided on the land for six months in each of the three years, or for two years continuously, and the money paid for the same, he may obtain his patent.

The Superintendent at the Pioneer Farm, Mr. A. E. Annis, whose post office is Dryden, Ont., will act as land agent, and will be found prepared to give information and assistance to those requiring it, and intending purchasers should communicate with him.

The Crops in 1896.

Mr. Annis reports the crops on the pioneer farm in 1896 as follows: Fall wheat, Dawson's Golden Chaff, twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre; Colorado spring wheat about twenty; Harrison's bearded about twelve; barley, a fair crop; oats, poor. The clover in fall wheat, sown 8th May, at time of cutting wheat was in full bloom, a lot of it two to two and one-half feet high. The timothy in wheat was also headed out. The clover was cut twice this season, the first crop about two tons and the second one ton per acre. Potatoes yielded 213 bushels per acre. Turnips and carrots will do well, but cannot say as much for mangels. The first frost that injured tomatoes and other tender vegetables occurred on the 14th of September.

Sheep will do well owing to the rolling character of the land and rich natural pasture. One man had six lambs from very common ewes, two of which on October last weighed 131 lbs. each. They were weaned April 15th.

The weather during the winter of 1896-7 was not so favorable as last, the season closing up earlier and the snow fall being deeper than usual. Still, a great deal of pleasant weather was enjoyed. In 1895 the plow stopped running on November 5th, and in 1896 on October 17th.

Reduced Fares.

It is expected that those desiring to personally inspect the Wabigoon country with the view of purchasing a location may be able to obtain reduced fares from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The special C.P.R. one-way rate to Dryden is \$17 all rail, or \$15 by rail and boat. It is given only to bona fide settlers. Those desiring to avail themselves of it should apply to the Assistant General Passenger Agent C. P. R., Toronto, or to L. O. Armstrong, C. P. R. Colonization Agent, Montreal, Que.

As, however, some may not feel disposed to expend the money necessary to enable them to view the country before deciding to locate, the Department would advise that wherever a number of persons in the same neighborhood are anxious to obtain further information, they should select one of their number to act as a land explorer in their behalf, each contributing his proportion to the expenses of the trip. This person could then visit the country and report to them its suitability to their individual requirements.

It should be understood that the Ontario Government cannot undertake to give financial assistance to persons who contemplate changing their location from one part of the Province to another, as such an expenditure would benefit merely the individual and not the Province as a whole, and is, therefore, not in accordance with the Government's policy in such matters.

The chief advantages of the Wabigoon country may be summed up as follows:

1. Easily cleared land. Two men and a team can underbrush two acres a day on an average. This work should be undertaken preferably in the early fall, after which the land should be plowed and thoroughly cultivated with the harrow, and again replowed the following spring, when it is ready for the crop. The lightness of the snow fall admits of underbrushing, etc., being carried on to some extent during the winter months.
2. Ease of access by means of railway, road and water communication.
3. The existence of good markets close at hand.
4. Sufficient timber for building, fencing and fuel.
5. Cheap land, a good soil, an abundant supply of pure water and a healthful climate.
6. Plenty of fish and game to supply the need of the settler.
7. Winter employment in the lumber camps.

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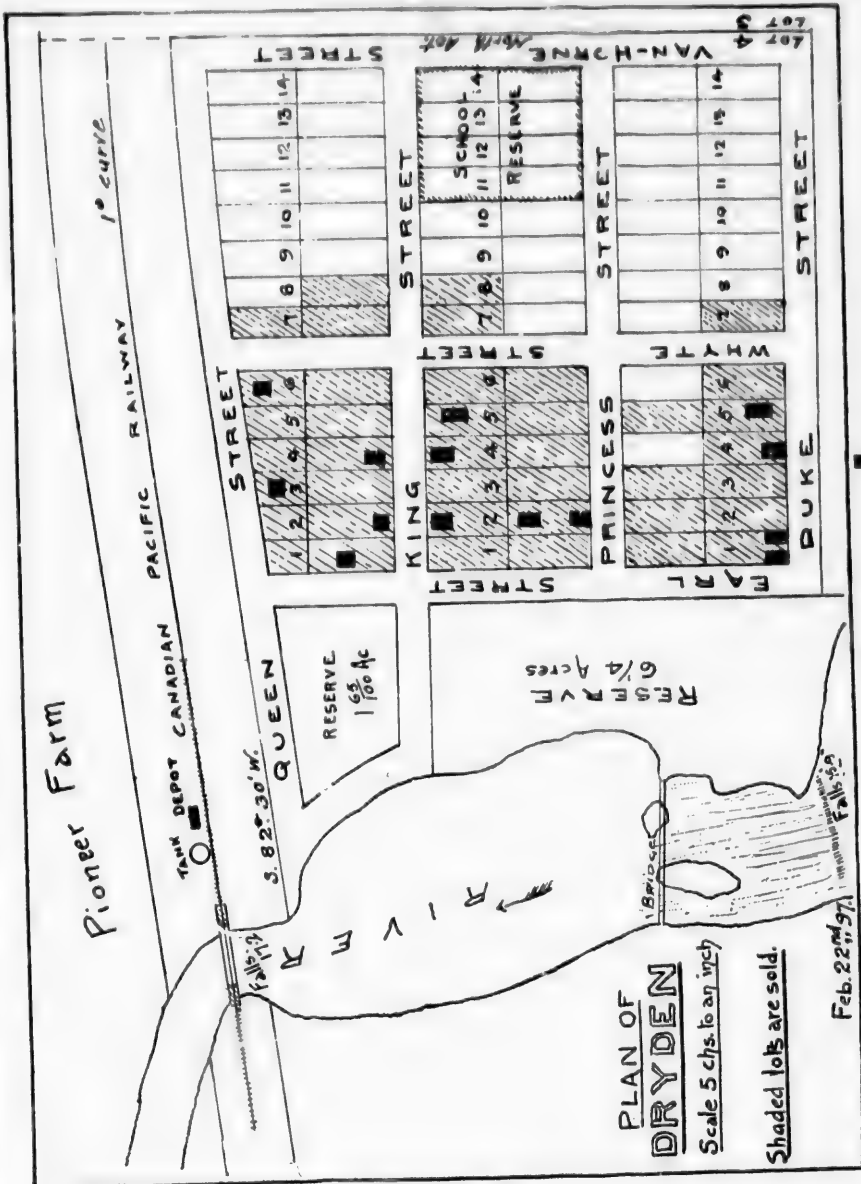
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PART 4.

THE RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

This name is applied to that part of Western Algoma, bounded on the south by Minnesota, west by Manitoba, and east by the height of land west of Lake Superior. It gets its name from the Rainy river, which forms the boundary between Ontario and the United States. The area of the district is almost 22,500 square miles, and it is estimated to contain about 600,000 acres of good agricultural land, principally in the valley of the Rainy river. The river runs for about eighty miles through a rich alluvial tract. Nearly all the land fronting on the river on the Canadian side is suitable for settlement. The arable area runs back from the river some ten to twenty miles, the soil being clay and clay loam with a little gravel and sand. There are occasional swamps timbered with tamarac, spruce and cedar, that require some surface draining before they are fit for agriculture. The whole of this tract is remarkably free from stones and rocks.

Climate and Crops.

The climate is similar to that which has before been described, the thermometer registering a few degrees of greater cold than is experienced in the older settled districts of Ontario, but there being no practical difference in the winters as far as healthfulness and pleasantness are concerned. The snowfall is not deep and the sleighing can be counted upon as good from December to March.

Vegetation is extremely luxuriant in the Rainy River valley. All the cereal and grass crops common to Ontario are grown here, and all the garden crops flourish exceedingly. There is also a great abundance of wild fruits.

Forests.

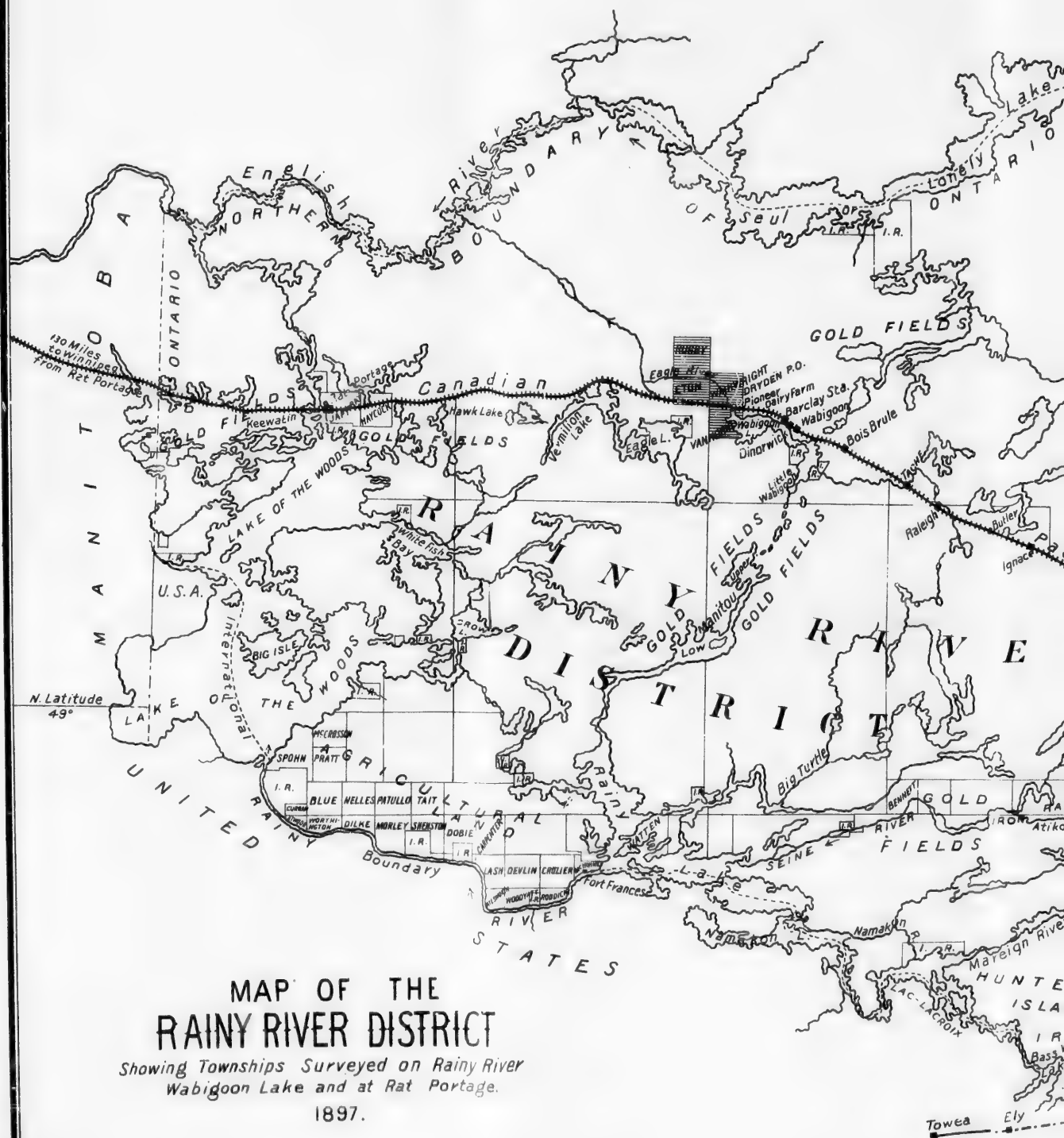
There is a great deal of red and white pine between Saginaga, Seine and Maligne rivers, with occasional large pine in the Rainy River valley, and much on the innumerable islands of the Lake of the Woods. The other common woods are poplar, birch, basswood, oak, elm, ash, soft maple, balm of Gilead, balsam, spruce, cedar and tamarac. Lumbering operations are being carried on on a very large scale, and there are well-equipped sawmills on Rainy river and Rainy lake, also at Rat Portage, Norman and Keewatin. As the Province of Manitoba must draw its principal supplies of pine from this quarter, an extensive business will doubtless be carried on, and employment will be easily had for many years to come.

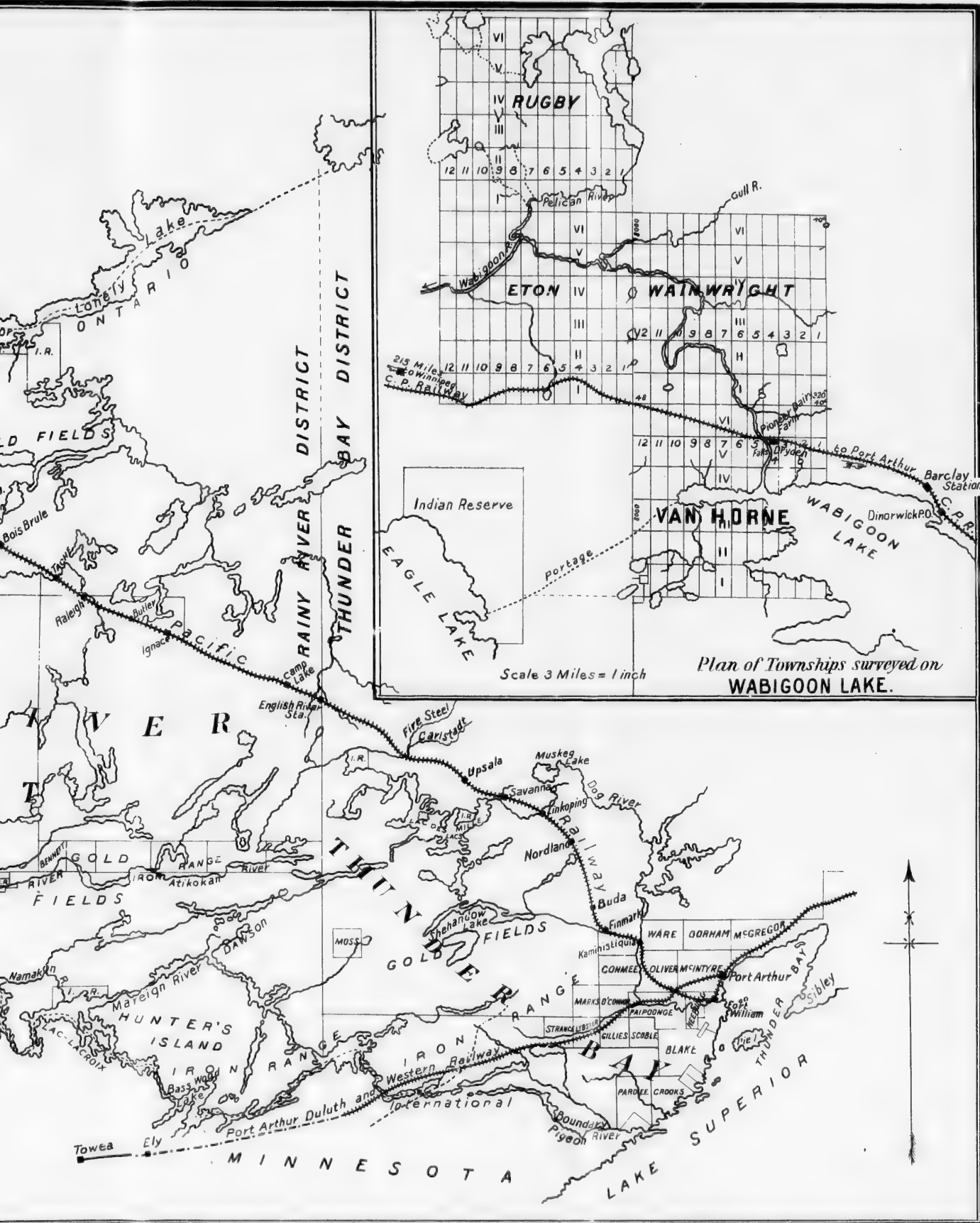
Soil.

As has been stated, Rainy river takes its course through a rich alluvial valley for over eighty miles. This valley is eminently adapted to support a large and populous agricultural population. As to the extent of the cultivatable land in

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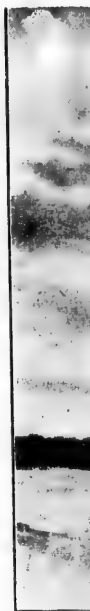




VIEW OF RAT PORTAGE, FROM THE C. P. R. BRIDGE.



KEEWA BAY, LAKE OF THE WOODS.





SCENE ON RAINY RIVER, AT "HUNGRY HALL."



SCENE ON RAINY RIVER, SHOWING BOOM OF LOGS.

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the District, it is stated on good authority that all the land fronting on the river is suitable for settlement, while the arable area reaches back to a distance of sixteen miles, where the soil is found to be even superior to that at the water's edge, being mostly clay and clay loam with very little gravel or sand.

The greater part of the arable land requires no drainage whatever; even the occasional swamps of spruce, cedar and tamarac are all dry in summer and can be made most excellent land by a little systematic drainage, and as they are all at a considerable height above the river level, proper ditching would remove the surface water in the spring. The beds of the small creeks and streams are deep enough to provide adequate outlets, ditches and drains. The area of good land along Rainy river, which is about eighty miles long by from ten to twelve miles wide, is remarkably free from stones and rocks.

Products.

The richness of the soil and the equable climate combine to produce a wide range of cereals and fruits. Hay, oats, and spring and fall wheat are successfully grown; the products of the garden include potatoes, onions, corn, carrots, turnips, tomatoes and cabbage, while the smaller fruits, such as raspberries, strawberries and plums, grow in abundance.

As an instance of the length of the season, oats sown as late as the middle of June have fully ripened. The settler who makes the above statement has lived on the bank of Rainy river for thirteen years and has never had a failure of crops. During one summer his farm yielded seventy bushels of potatoes from one bushel of seed. A practical experience such as this illustrates most forcibly the fertility of the soil. The market for all a farmer can raise is at his door, the large number of lumbermen and miners in the district being the purchasers.

Fish and Game.

To the sportsman this part of Ontario is indeed a "happy hunting ground." The waters abound in fish and wild fowl are very plentiful. The moose are unfortunately becoming very scarce in the district, but black bears are very numerous, while wolves are also scarce. Buffalo were seen by early settlers near Rainy River but have since disappeared. The common brown bear and the more rare and beautiful silver fox are among the denizens of Northwestern Ontario. Beaver abound in the streams and creeks, while the otter, ermine and mink are plentiful. Partridge, grouse and water fowl of all kinds are also extremely plentiful.

Settlement.

The great advantage of this district, especially with regard to water and wood, over a prairie country, have attracted a number of settlers from Northern Dakota. Many of the settlers have been on their lands since 1874, and have good houses and barns, large clearances, good fences and well bred stock. The Ontario Government gives a Free Grant to every *bona fide* settler, head of a family, male or female, 160 acres of land, and if he desires will sell him an additional eighty acres adjoining, at \$1 per acre, payable in three years, while any or all of their sons over eighteen years of age may have 120 acres free and may purchase eighty acres each at \$1 an acre.

On February 13, 1889, a proclamation was issued by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, bringing into force the Act respecting Free Grants and Homesteads to actual settlers on Public Lands in the District of Rainy River, which was passed

during the session of the Legislature held in 1886. Immediately following this proclamation, the Department of Crown Lands set apart twenty townships in the district as Free Grant Townships, and two have since been added. They are situated on the Canadian bank of the Rainy river and contain the choicest and most fertile land to be found in the district, each township having a frontage on the river.

The surveys made in 1876 by the Dominion Government (on the one mile square section plan, the same as has been followed in the North-West), have been adopted by the Ontario Legislature, which legalized these surveys by the Act of 1886, and provided that any lands in the Rainy River District considered suitable for settlement and cultivation may, by Order in Council, be appropriated as Free Grants upon the terms specified.

Colonization Roads and Bridges.

Since the settlement of the Boundary question, the Ontario Government has adopted a liberal policy regarding the construction of Colonization roads and bridges in the district. About \$30,000 has been expended during the last five years on the three leading highways of the district alone, viz.: the Rat Portage and Keewatin Road, the Rabbit Mountain and White Fish Lake Road, and the Rainy River Road. The first is about five miles in length, and serves the towns of Rat Portage, Keewatin, and neighboring localities; the second is about thirty miles long and leads to the great silver mining district in the neighborhood of and beyond Rabbit Mountain; while the third is some seventy miles in length and follows the course of Rainy River on the Canadian bank from Fort Francis to the Lake of the Woods.

As to bridges, the Rat Portage and Keewatin Road necessitated the building of two large bridges across the main outlets of the Winnipeg River. Two large bridges have also been built across the Kaministiquia River to develop both the mining and farming interests and, during the session of 1897, the Legislature voted over \$36,000 for new mining roads in addition to \$6,500 for the extension and repair of roads in the Wabigoon and Rainy River agricultural districts.

Centres of Population.

Rat Portage is the principal town of the district. It has a population of about 2,000, two newspapers and a pushing spirit and is sure to grow. It is a divisional point of the C. P. R., the principal port on the Lake of the Woods, has a large lumbering and fish exporting industry, and the centre of a large mining industry as well. The prodigious water power at the northern outlet of the Lake of the Woods, which has been developed by arrangement between the Keewatin Milling and Manufacturing Company and the Ontario Government will add to the prosperity of Rat Portage, as well as of Keewatin and Norman. The two last named places are situated near at hand. At the town of Keewatin is the establishment of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, the largest flour mill in Canada, with a capacity of 2,000 barrels a day. A barrel factory, with an output of a thousand barrels a day, and elevators, one of which will hold 400,000 bushels, are some of the allied industries. Keewatin's population is about 1,500. Norman is situated midway between Keewatin and Rat Portage. The water power available here is enormous, and there are excellent openings for factories of all kinds. The population is about 800. All of these places are becoming favorably known as summer resorts.

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Fort Francis is the principal settlement on Rainy River. It is an ancient fort, or post, of the Hudson Bay Company, and is delightfully situated on a strip of land near the outlet of Rainy lake, immediately below the falls, and between the lake and the head of navigation on the river. The appearance of the woods on either bank of the river near here is described as quite park-like, the tall trees standing far apart and having the natural outline of those grown in the open. The town has a sawmill and several flourishing stores and industries. The population in 1891 was about 1,400.

What is Said of the District.

A settler who had lived thirteen years on the Rainy river says he has never known a failure of crops. He has gathered seventy bushels of potatoes from one bushel planted, and has known oats to ripen well when sown as late as the middle of June. Another settler says that the summer is generally moist, with clear sunshine most of the time. The fall is beautiful and November all through about the best month of the year. The winter is very dry, the snow loose, yet it seldom drifts.

Hon. A. S. Hardy.

Hon. A. S. Hardy, Premier and Attorney-General of Ontario, said in an interview printed in the *Globe* concerning the Rainy river stretch: "It is of unparalleled fertility. I know of no stretch of eighty miles in Ontario that can compare with it in richness or fertility of soil. It is easily cleared, the timber upon it being of second growth, and the stumps are easily removed, indeed come out readily in about three years from the clearing. It is capable of sustaining 500,000 people, perhaps more. The crops are uniformly of the best quality. wheat running from 30 to 35 and 40 bushels per acre and other grains in proportion. I have never seen early settlers more comfortable." Concerning the country traversed by the Port Arthur and Western Railway, Hon. Mr. Hardy said: "I was delighted to find that the railway ran through some very rich farming lands. The valley of the Kaministiquia and further west and south of the Whitefish valley show some as fine soil as is to be found in many of the finest counties of the province. We saw here and there crops growing indicating great fertility and productive capacity. As the road proceeds it reaches and runs through some of the richest iron producing districts in the Dominion, and it is thought it will ultimately prove a great mineral road."

Hon. John Dryden.

In the same paper, Hon. Mr. Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, said: "As I told the people at Port Arthur and Fort Francis, there are some things they can grow up there that we cannot grow in the older parts of Ontario, and in which they can beat us. The clover does not seem to heave in the winter as ours does and is as good the third year, I was told, as the first. The advantage of this will be understood by practical farmers, because we think if we can raise a good crop of clover we can grow anything. Corn grows up there much better than in Ontario county. I saw some eight feet high which had been sown on 7th June. They have fine roots, and I saw a field of turnips as good as I saw anywhere in my travels. In addition to that several settlers told me that they can grow two crops of timothy in one season. White clover grows wild on the roadside like our June grass and has bits of red clover in it, an unheard of thing down here. They can also grow good barley and spring wheat and vegetables of all kinds.

These things being established, I come to the conclusion that there is the opportunity there for the production of live stock as profitably as anywhere in the Dominion. It means that it is a good dairying country, and if I were a farmer in that district I would devote myself to that branch of farming.

Mr. James Conmee, M.P.P.

Mr. James Conmee, M.P.P. for West Algoma, says: "The belt of good land is not confined to the valley of the river, but extends northeasterly along the shore of the Lake of the Woods, and for a considerable distance along the northern shore of Rainy lake. I estimate the agricultural belt as equal to an area of 140 miles in length by 40 miles in width, or 4,084,000 acres. There are other valleys of excellent land, but none so large as the Rainy river valley. The valleys of the Kawawagamog and Seine rivers emptying into Rainy lake both contain large areas of agricultural land. The same is true of Grassy and other rivers emptying into Lake of the Woods."

Mr Wm Margach.

Mr. William Margach, Crown Timber Agent at Rat Portage, in a recent interview says:—

A great change has come over the Rainy River District during the past few years, not only by a natural increase in population, but a large increase of practical farmers. The recent immigration to the River has been largely from Ontario of experienced farmers, and as a result there have been more improvements during the last three years than during the ten years before. A grist mill is in course of erection at Emo, where there is a thriving village with a hotel and two general stores. Another village is growing at Pine River, where there are also hotels and stores, and other settlements are forming at convenient points.

Regarding labor, Mr. Margach asserts that there is no part of Ontario where higher wages are paid for labor than along the Rainy River. The lumber camps employ from 500 to 700 men every winter, and there is labor for the horses in the camps in hauling logs and ties.

There is no part of the River that is not fairly well supplied with schools and the schoolhouses have been built sufficiently large to enable them to be used as churches. The Government has for years spent large sums for colonization roads as fast as settlement has warranted, and the work upon these has been performed by the settlers after their spring farm work is completed. During the summer of 1897, over \$24,000 is to be expended on colonization and mining roads, which will furnish well remunerated labor for a large number of men and teams.

As to the crops, Mr. Margach asserts that there has been no failure for the past five years. The ground is easily cleared, being lightly timbered, and although portions of the land is wet, the fact that the river is so much lower than its banks makes drainage comparatively easy. Stumps are removed without difficulty. An evidence of the prosperity of the farmers on the Canadian side of the river is had in the fact that they use the most improved farm machinery. And there is lots of good land left, added Mr. Margach. The agricultural lands of

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the Rainy River District are not only as fertile as any to be found in Ontario, and they will yet be the homes of a large and prosperous community, especially when the railway taps Rainy lake and river from the south and east.

Means of Access.

Rat Portage on the Canadian Pacific at the northern extremity of the Lake of the Woods is the point to aim for. It is distant by rail from Toronto 1,154 miles. From Rat Portage to Rainy Lake is 180 miles. The Rainy river is 80 miles long and the length of the Lake of the Woods from north to south is 100 miles. The steambont fare for an adult from Rat Portage to Rainy Lake is \$4. Five new steamers have recently been placed on this route.

Extracts from the Press.

Algoma Pioneer: "There is a farmer in the township of Parkinson who moved in there three years ago without one dollar. He now informs me that he has forty acres cleared, and the last year he raised 100 bushels of good wheat, a good crop of oats and peas, 600 bushels of turnips and 350 bushels of potatoes. He has ten head of cattle and one horse all paid for and is out of debt. His boys earn \$20 a month this winter in the lumber shanty, and they intend to chop and clear a large fallow this coming summer."

Correspondence, *Toronto Globe*: "The climate is very healthy. There are no disastrous storms, no drought, no wet seasons. I speak from twelve years' experience. There is the best of drinking water. People who can command \$800 to \$3,000 can buy at second hand farms from 80 to 200 acres with clearings from twenty to sixty acres. Taking out ties, wood and sawlogs is the winter work, as there is a great demand, and every farmer is busy and earns from \$200 to \$500."

Correspondence *Sault Ste. Marie Express*: "Algoma excels for the following reasons: The abundance of all kinds of grasses and clover and their rapid growth. The white clover is natural to the soil of Algoma and is always a sure crop. This year I expect to have two tons of hay to the acre, and my oat crop forty bushels to the acre, and my peas twenty bushels to the acre. As to hog-raising, it will pay very well here. You can sell your young pigs, five to six weeks old at \$5 to \$6 per pair right here in my own township, and we have a good market for pork at Sault Ste. Marie all the year round. My brood sow and pigs run out all summer in the pasture. I sold eighteen young pigs this spring at \$5 a pair.

Interview with Mr. Archibald Blue, director of the Bureau of Mines. He says that the pioneer farmer at Larchwood who has been hunter, trapper and farmer there for fourteen years, claims that he cut this year sixty-eight tons of red clover off a measured seventeen acres, and having sold the whole of it he knows the weight. A seed crop is often gathered in Algoma, too, and so well does the clover reseed itself that in four or five years it roots out the timothy. This being so, and water being so plentiful everywhere, Algoma ought to become a banner district for beef, mutton, cheese and butter. It is also a great country for peas and oats. There is no bug in the pea, and the yield runs from thirty to

thirty-five bushels per acre. Larchwood is in the middle of a fine belt of land eight miles in width, which stretches thirty miles along both sides of the Vermilion. The soil of this tract is rich, and a thriving settlement is growing up along the railway, but especially around Chelmsford. Oats, peas and clover are the principal crops. "I never saw," says Mr. Blue, "more luxuriant clover for an aftermath at this time of the year, and as for peas, I was told of one farmer who threshed 1,000 bushels from thirty acres."

Mr. S. J. Dawson's Description.

The report of Mr. S. J. Dawson, in 1874 (then engineer in charge of the district), fully corroborates the views of the two eminent authorities already quoted. He says:—"Alluvial land of the best description extends along the banks of Rainy River in an unbroken stretch of seventy-five or eighty miles from Rainy Lake to the Lake of the Woods. In this tract, where it borders on the river, there is not an acre unsuited to cultivation. At intervals there are old park-like Indian clearings, partly overgrown with oak and elm, which, although they have naturally sprung up, have the appearance of ornamental plantations. * * *

* The whole district is covered with forests, and Canadian settlers would find themselves in a country similar, in many respects, to the land of their nativity; nor does the climate differ essentially from that of the most favored parts of Ontario and Quebec. Wheat was successfully grown for many years at Fort Frances, both by the old Northwest Company and their successors, the Hudson's Bay Company. The Indians still cultivate maize on the little farms on Rainy River and Lake of the Woods. In many places the wild grape grows in extraordinary profusion, yielding fruit which comes to perfection in the fall. Wild rice, which requires a high summer temperature, is abundant, and indeed the flora, taken generally, indicates a climate in every way well adapted to the growth of cereals.

Rainy River Free Grant Townships.

The following townships are now open for location under the Rainy River Free Grants and Homesteads' Act:

Curran,	Dilke,	Shenston,	Devlin,
Atwood,	Pattullo,	Rosebery,	Woodyatt,
Blue	Morley,	Barwick,	Crozier,
Worthington,	S. of Morley,	Lash,	Roddick,
Nelles,	Tait,	Aylsworth,	Dobie.
Carpenter,			

Agents for Sale and Location of Lands.

R. J. F. Marsh, Rainy River P.O., agent for the townships of Rosebery, Shenston, Tait, Pattullo, Morley, Dilke, Nelles, Blue, Worthington, Curran and Atwood.

William Stephenson, Big Fork's P.O., agent for the townships of Barwick, Lash, Aylsworth, Devlin, Woodyatt, Crozier, Roddick, Carpenter and Dobie.

E. A. Chapman, Rat Portage, who will furnish intending settlers with the number of lots open for location, as well as valuable general information regarding the district.

Rainy River Free Grants and Homesteads' Act.

The general provisions of the Free Grants and Homesteads' Act before given apply also to free grants in the Rainy River District. But there are these differences:

The limit of a Rainy River free grant is 160 acres. The male head of a family or the sole female head of a family having a child or children under eighteen residing with him or her may locate for 160 acres, and may also purchase an additional 80 acres at \$1 an acre.

The settlement duties are:

(1) *To have at least fifteen acres cleared and had under cultivation, of which two acres at least are to be cleared and cultivated annually during the three years;*

(2) *To have built a habitable house, at least 16 by 20 feet in size;*

(3) *And to have actually and continuously resided upon and cultivated the land for three years after location.*

A locatee who purchases an additional 80 acres must, within three years, clear fifteen acres and cultivate the same. Patents may issue at the expiration of three years from the date of purchase, or sooner if the settlement duties have been performed. Pine trees and minerals are reserved from the sale. The locatee may cut and use such pine trees as he requires for building, fencing and fuel on his land, and may also cut and dispose of any pine required to be removed in the process of clearing; but he must pay timber dues on pine so disposed of. Trees remaining on the land at the time the patent issues pass to the patentee.

PART 5.

THE GOLD FIELDS OF WESTERN ONTARIO.

(Extracts from Preliminary report by Dr. A. P. Coleman, 1896.)

Gold is very widely distributed in the Province of Ontario, having been found at many points between the townships of Madoc and Marmora in the east, and the boundary of Manitoba, more than nine hundred miles to the north-west. In the eastern part of the Province it has been obtained to a greater or less extent at several points east of the town of Peterborough, such as Deloro, Belmont and Madoc; near Parry Sound on the Georgian bay; east of the famous Sudbury nickel mines at Wahnapiatae, from which magnificent specimens come; west of Sudbury, at the Vermilion mine; north of lake Huron, at the Ophir mine in Galbraith township; and north of lake Superior, at the Empress mine, near Jackfish bay; but the most promising region at present lies west of Lake Superior, from Moss township to Shoal lake on the boundary of Manitoba.

The gold deposits of the eastern part of the Province have been known for thirty years, and have been worked to a small extent during that time; but some of the ores are difficult to treat, such as those mined near Deloro, and it is only recently that the difficulties seem to have been successfully met, so that their development belongs to the future. The deposits near Sudbury also are attracting attention, but cannot yet be called mines. On the north shore of Lake Superior the Empress mine is undergoing development, and is of good promise.

Attention is, however, specially directed at present to the main gold region of Ontario, which extends for more than two hundred and fifty miles from Moss township westward, and has been proved to be at least a hundred and thirty miles wide, between the Little America mine just south of the international boundary in Minnesota and lake Minnetakie twenty miles north of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Here the number of locations, usually of forty acres each, taken up for gold mining purposes within the last four year runs into the hundreds. Many of these will of course not prove workable mines; but, on the other hand, new finds are constantly being made, sometimes in quite new localities, sometimes in regions supposed to have been well explored years ago.

In general the gold bearing veins occur in green chlorite and hornblende schist, probably of Huronian (Keewatin) age, and are of a bedded or lenticular kind; but sometimes they are found in masses of eruptive granite or gneiss which have pushed their way up through the Huronian schists. In the latter case the veins are commonly true fissures, and may be followed for considerable distances. In either case the contact of an eruptive rock with schist seems of importance, since the best veins are found within a mile or two of such a contact. In addition to gold bearing veins there are deposits of other kinds which

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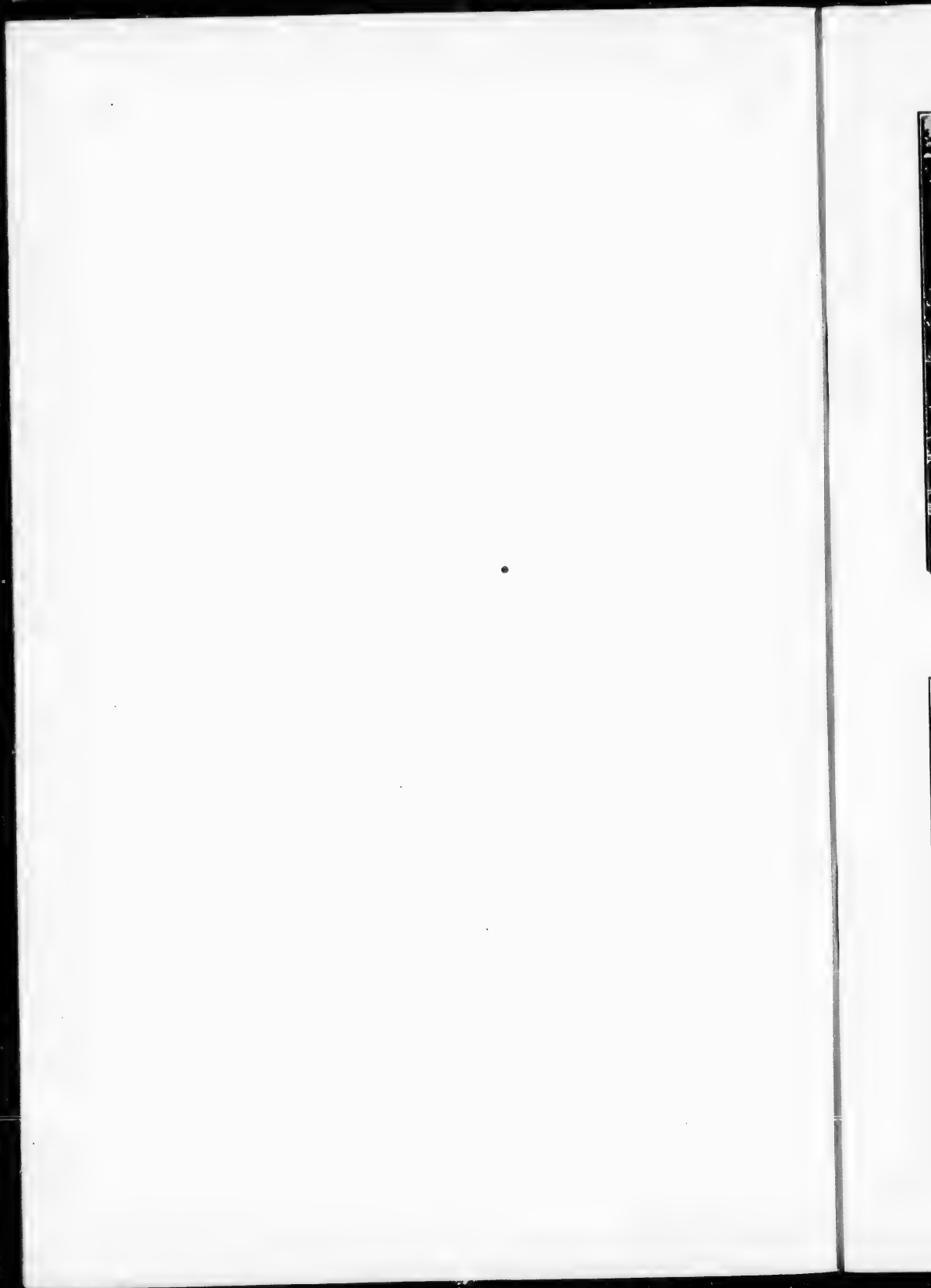
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MINING SHAFT, SAW BILL LAKE GOLD MINE, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.



SECTION OF QUARTZ GOLD-BEARING VEIN, SAW BILL LAKE LOCATION,
RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.





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are worthy of attention, such as fahlbands, wide bands of schist heavily charged with sulphides, and showing a considerable amount of free gold; and dikes of felsite or quartz porphyry containing pyrites and gold, though up to the present none of these have been mined sufficiently to prove their value.

Regions Visited During the Summer.

On Sawbill lake, which opens into the Seine from the north some distance below Proudfoot's camp, and thirty-three miles southwest of Bonheur station on the Canadian Pacific Railway, the now well-known Sawbill mine is situated. At our arrival early in July we found that a shaft had been sunk to a depth of 49 feet, and that the vein had increased in width from four feet on the surface to six at the bottom and showed very distinct walls. The vein can be traced for more than a quarter of a mile on the surface, and will no doubt afford a great quantity of ore. The quartz contains the usual sulphides, and free gold can frequently be seen.

Still further down the Seine, a little west of its expansion, Steep Rock lake, the Harold Lake mine, owned by Messrs. Wiley and Gibbs, is situated. Here several veins, in general not very large, have been more or less opened up by shafts or drifts, and a five-stamp mill worked intermittently has yielded a number of gold bricks. One small vein on the shore of Harold lake contains ore exceedingly rich in free gold, in leaf form. The country rock here is quite varied, granite of the greenish altered kind, often called protogine, piercing green and yellowish rocks of the Huronian.

Up to the present the most important mines have been found in an area of protogine granite about six miles in length from northeast to southwest and about a mile in width, lying between Shoal and Bad Vermilion lakes. The whole granite area has been located and scores of veins have been found, varying greatly in gold contents, but generally true fissure veins with well defined walls of slickensided talc or sericite schist.

The largest amount of development has been done on the Foley mine, now owned by the Ontario Gold Mines Co., the property comprising AL74, 75, 76. On one of their veins, the Bonanza, one shaft had been sunk to 210 feet and another 1,200 feet away to a depth of 113 feet, and more than 300 feet of drifting had been done at various levels at the time of our visit, July 17. The vein proves very uniform in width, running from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to about four feet, and the ore, which contains a considerable amount of visible gold is said to average \$20 in free milling gold and \$5 in concentrates per ton. By this time a well equipped twenty stamp mill is being erected, and before the new year should be producing gold. There is every reason to expect that this will prove a very profitable mine.*

The Ferguson mine is situated northeast of the Foley mine, in the same area of granite, on locations AL110, 111 and K223. This property is owned by the Seine River Gold Mines Company of England, which is at present doing mainly exploring work. There are several veins ranging from a foot to three feet or more in width and traceable for hundreds of feet. On the Daisy vein two shafts had been sunk to a depth of fifty feet, and sinking had been begun on the Government veins at the time of our visit, rich specimens coming from the latter ore body. On the Finn vein, one of the widest, a shaft had been sunk seventy feet. The work thus far done shows that the veins are not usually very wide, but that there is in the aggregate a large amount of fairly rich ore available.

*The mill is now running steadily and producing gold.

The only other property in the region requiring special mention is the Lucky Coon or Hillier mine, on 655P, where a shaft has been sunk to the depth of about fifty feet on one of the veins and a five-stamp mill erected. The quartz looks well, and the vein chiefly worked is about eight feet wide at the bottom of the shaft. Owing to disagreements among the owners the mill was run for only a short time.

Many locations have been taken up in the Keewatin schists east of Shoal lake, and also along Little Turtle river and lake, north of Bad Vermilion lake. These deposits are mainly bedded veins or fahlbands, and have been very little developed, though rich specimens of free gold come from them, and a plucky company of Norwegians have pounded out a few hundred dollars worth of gold with hand stamps from a vein on the Little Turtle.

On Rainy lake itself gold has been found at a number of points; but the only mines worked are two in Minnesota. Of these only the Little America mine on a small island near Rainy Lake City has produced much gold. From it several thousand dollars worth have been obtained, and after many vicissitudes it is now said to be worked at a profit. Minnesota, however, contains only a narrow fringe of the gold bearing Huronian rocks which cover so wide a surface to the north and northeast in Canada.

North of Rainy lake and south of the Canadian Pacific Railway, at Wabigoon, is a very promising region on the shores of Lake Manitou and smaller bodies of water near by. Ore deposits of varying kinds and of all degrees of richness occur here, and brilliant specimens are found, but nothing that can be dignified with the name of mining has yet been attempted.

Gold has been found at various points north of the railway, e. g. on Minnie-takie and Sturgeon lakes; but the locations are yet only in the prospecting stage.

The Regina (Canada) Gold Mine Company (Limited), of London, England, is operating the Regina mine on Whitefish bay of Lake of the Woods, Lieut. General H. C. Wilkinson being managing director. At the time of our visit a shaft had been sunk one hundred and sixty feet, and five hundred feet of drifting had been done on the main vein, besides the sinking of small shafts for the testing of one or two other ore deposits. The vein on which most work has been done begins in a mass of portogine granite near the shore, and runs into a weathered diabase (trap) toward the south. There is a rich shoot of ore running down through the granite into the diabase. The gold is fine, and difficult to save by the present concentrators. The mill is of ten stamps, and the number of men employed about fifty.

Many locations have been taken up near the Regina and further northwest on Yellow Girl and other bays, but none have been worked seriously. Nearer Rat Portage, however, especially along the contact of Laurentian and Huronian running northwest from Andrew bay to Black Sturgeon lake, a number of shafts have been sunk, generally to a depth of fifty feet, and at several points abandoned or active mining plants may be seen.

There are a number of other promising properties, including some wide fahlbands, north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, such as the Scramble mine and two or three others.

The most justly famous mine in our whole western gold field is undoubtedly the Sultana, on an island seven miles southeast of Rat Portage, owned by Mr.

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John F. Caldwell, of Winnipeg. After years of hard struggle against adverse circumstances, this plucky and energetic mine owner is reaping a solid reward in the shape of a great body of rich quartz, in places 40 feet wide, and already followed more than three hundred feet in depth. Nearly a thousand feet of drifting have been done, and there is ore enough in sight to keep the well-equipped ten-stamp mill, or one double its size, running for years. The ore bodies appear to be lenticular, the lower one of immense size, and are enclosed in the sheared and schistose edge of an area of coarse porphyritic granitoid gneiss, mapped by the Geological Survey as Laurentian, but adjoining green Huronian rocks. The ore is somewhat quartzitic looking, contains one or two per cent. of iron pyrites, and is free milling to the extent of 75 or 80 per cent. A recently finished chlorination plant extracts the gold carried by the sulphides very satisfactorily. Gold mining at the Sultana has been reduced to a thoroughly business like basis, the mill running with scarcely a halt and the weekly brick being turned out with perfect regularity.

Perhaps the most interesting mining development of the year is to be found on a western shoal lake, thirty-five miles from Rat Portage and about ten miles east of the boundary of Manitoba. The Mikado mine, found by an Indian a year ago, has been purchased for \$25,000 by a London company under the chairmanship of Col. W. T. Engledue, and has been worked sufficiently to show that the ore is very rich, though not enough sinking has been done to prove the extent of the deposit. The quartz contains a variety of sulphides, including a sulphide of bismuth new to the Lake of the Woods region, and a considerable part of the gold is carried by these refractory minerals; but probably two-thirds of the gold contents are free milling, the gold occurring as thin plates rather than nuggets. The ore treated is the richest found in large quantities in Ontario, and the ore now on the dump, after only a few months' work by a small force, contains values sufficient to pay for the mine and a simple equipment.¹

Several other finds of very rich ore have been made in the vicinity of the Mikado, and next summer will probably see the development of an important mining camp in that district.

At a number of other points on Lake of the Woods and its bays promising finds of gold have been made, e. g., at Camp Bay to the southeast, but none of them have been worked sufficiently to make sure of their value.

Features of Promise in the Gold Regions.

Looking at our gold-mining regions as a whole, one is struck by the wide extent over which gold has been found, the variety of deposits that occur, the ease with which they may be reached, the free milling character of most of the ores, all points in their favor as compared with most gold regions.

No part of the gold-bearing regions is more than forty miles from a railway or steamboat, and most of the mines are within a few miles of the rails or of navigable waters. In winter a road sufficient to take in heavy machinery may be made without difficulty to any point in the region, and the Ontario Government has shown itself liberal in granting assistance to such roads.

All parts are readily reached by canoes in summer. Plenty of water of good quality is found everywhere, and wood for fuel, building or mine timbering almost everywhere. The region is not an inaccessible desert, nor covered with malarious swamps, nor cut off from civilization by precipitous mountains. Supplies of all

sorts are cheap; efficient labor can be obtained on easy terms, the labor of white men, not of negroes or Indians; and life and property are as safe as anywhere on the globe.

The laws relating to mining and mining locations are simple, and generally admitted to be fair and favorable to the prospector and mine owner. All locations are bounded by east and west and north and south lines, reducing boundary disputes and the customary litigation of mining countries to a minimum.

In conclusion, the impressions formed during the summers' work may be summed up in the statement that the prospects are better than ever before. One mine has already proved to be a splendidly paying property, and several others are apparently on the point of becoming so. The number of properties on which promising finds of gold have been made has greatly increased, and the area of known gold-bearing rock has been considerably widened. Many of the properties located will no doubt prove of little value, as is the case in every mining region of the world; others will not turn out to be extensive enough to justify an independent mill, though they may be worked at a profit when within reach of a customs' mill; but it may be looked on as certain that a considerable number of the locations taken up will eventually prove to be paying mines.

The Rainy River Gold Fields.

The gold fields of the New Ontario, which are attracting so large a degree of attention at the present time, are situated in the extreme east or northwest part of the Province, in the Lake of the Woods, Rainy Lake, Seine river, Manitou and Wabigoon regions. Huronian schists are found alternating with the Laurentian formations in many parts of these sections, and during the past two years, numberless discoveries of gold have been made, principally in the Huronian rocks, but also to a lesser degree, in the Laurentian or granite. Indeed, an area of altered granite or protogine, as it is sometimes called, between Bad Vermilion lake and Shoal lake on the Seine river, proves to contain a very large number of auriferous veins, some of which are being worked at the Foley and Ferguson mines, and elsewhere. In the Lake of the Woods section, the Sultana gold mine has been producing bullion steadily for over two years at a handsome profit: the Regina mine is also equipped with a stamp mill in operation, and on many other properties active exploration and development work is being carried on. The prospect is that many explorers will be overrunning the districts during the present season (1897), and that ere long northwestern Ontario will be the scene of a prosperous and permanent gold-mining industry. Should this expectation be realized, it is not difficult to foresee the very beneficial results which will accrue to the benefit of farmers along the Rainy river, and in the vicinity of the mines.

Information as to Mining Locations, etc.

Mining locations in unsurveyed territory in Nipissing, north of the Mattawa, Lake Nipissing and French River, and in Algoma, Thunder Bay and Rainy River are to be rectangular, 80x40 chains (320 acres); or 40 chains square, (160 acres); or 40x20 chains, (80 acres), 20x20 chains, 40 acres. One chain in width is to be reserved along lakes or rivers. In surveyed townships, the mining locations shall be one-half, one-quarter, one-eighth, or one-sixteenth of a section or lot, but not less than 40 acres.

Price of Mining Lands.

The price of mining lands in the above districts is:

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|---|--------|
| a. If in a surveyed township and within six miles of any railway | \$3 00 |
| b. If elsewhere in surveyed territory | 2 50 |
| c. If within six miles of any railway but in unsurveyed territory | 2 50 |
| d. If situate elsewhere in unsurveyed territory | 2 00 |

\$1 per acre during the first two years, and \$1 per acre during each remaining year.

(2) The price per acre of all other Crown lands sold as mining lands or locations and lying south of the aforesaid lake and rivers shall be:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| a. If in a surveyed township and within six miles of any railway | \$2 00 |
| b. If situate elsewhere | 1 50 |

In any locality set apart by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, the price may be fixed at a greater sum.

Tenure of Locations.

The patentee, during the seven years following the issue of the patent, must spend in development \$1 per acre during the first two years, and \$1 per acre during each remaining year.

Leases of Mining Lands.

Mining lands may be leased for ten years with right of renewal for another ten years. Rent in the above-named districts for first year \$1 per acre; succeeding years, 25 cents per acre; elsewhere, 60 cents an acre the first year and 15 cents per acre succeeding years. Such lease can afterwards be renewed for successive terms of twenty years. A condition of the lease is that there shall be spent in development the same sum as is required to be spent in case of land sold.

Pine Reserved.

The pine on mineral lands is reserved from the sale or lease. It may, however, be cut for building, fencing and fuel on the land patented. As to lessees, they can only cut dry pine for fuel, and before entering upon clearing, they must give the timber licensee three months' notice in writing of the intention to clear. If lessees wish to cut other timber than pine except for use on the lot, application for permission to cut must be made to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Mining Rights.

The owner of the surface rights has priority in respect of the mining rights under certain conditions.

The price of mining rights is 50 per cent. of the rates for the purchase or lease of mineral lands.

Rights of Discoverer of New Mine.

The discoverer of a vein or lode of ore or mineral, distant at least ten miles from the nearest known mine, vein, lode, or deposit of the same metal, ore or mineral, is entitled to a free grant of one location of 40 acres.

Royalties.

The following royalties are payable on all ores and minerals mined :

	On lands sold between 1st May, 1891, and 1st Jan., 1900.	On lands sold after 1st January, 1900.
Silver, nickel, or nickel and copper....	2 per cent.	3 per cent.
Iron ore, not exceeding.....	2 "	2 "
All other ores, not exceeding.....	2 "	3 "

The royalty is not to be imposed until after seven years from the date of the patent or lease, and in respect of lands sold or leased previous to 1st January, 1900, the charge is to be based on the value of the ore less the actual cost of raising the same to the surface and its subsequent treatment for the market.

Bounty on Pig Iron.

An "Iron Mining Fund" of \$125,000 has been formed, out of which there will be paid for every ton of iron produced from ore mined and smelted in the Province for a period of five years from 1st July, 1894, the sum of one dollar, to the amount of not more than \$25,000 in any one year.

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